Early Detection Saves Lives
Over 40? Don't skip your annual mammogram. Breast cancer affects 1 in 8 women. Go online or call us today to schedule your mammogram.
bronsonhealth.com/mammogram
(269) 341-8700
BRONSON

Connecting you to your community since 1843

THURSDAY, February 27,2025

75¢

The Courier Leader

SERVING PAW PAW • LAWTON • MATTAWAN • LAWRENCE • GOBLES • VAN BUREN COUNTY

Volume 8, Issue 9 wilcoxnewspapers.com • 269-657-3072 USPS 564-620

Chili Walk brings crowd to downtown Paw Paw

The third annual Paw Paw Chili Walk was held Saturday, Feb. 22, in downtown Paw Paw. Nearly 30 businesses and organizations took part in the event that attracted large crowds during the event, held from noon to 4 p.m. The Paw Paw Fire Department captured top honors, with Paw Paw Brewing Company taking runner-up. Family Fare was named People's Choice.
Courier-Leader photos/Paul Garrod

Groundbreaking set for first Mattawan Consolidated School Construction Bond Project Stadium Work, Phase 1

MATTAWAN - Mattawan Consolidated School has announced the first groundbreaking ceremony for the district's inaugural construction project under the $110 million School Construction Bond. The event will take place March 10, at 6 p.m. at the stadium and will officially launch the much-anticipated stadium renovation project. The public is welcome to attend.

The renovation work will include several key improvements designed to enhance both the safety and functionality of the district's athletic facilities:

1. Game Field Replacement: Installation of a state-of-the-art turf playing surface to provide a modern, durable, and safe environment for our athletes. The field will be striped for mul-tiple sports ensuring maximum usage.
2. Track and Field Event Enhancements: Replacement of the existing track surface, along with expanded field event amenities to better support our track and field programs.
3. Perimeter Fencing Upgrades: Replacement of the immediate perimeter fencing to im-prove security and aesthetics around the stadium.
4. New Pavement/Asphalt: Replacement of all perimeter sidewalks and pathways
5. Bleacher Renovation: Renovations to home bleachers, including the addition of seating to the south of the current home bleachers, accommodating the district's band.

At the Feb. 10, Mattawan Board of Education meeting, the board approved the bid package for this project at an estimated cost of approximately $6 million - nearly $1 million under budget. "This cost-effective approach allows us to maximize the impact of the bond funds while delivering topquality improvements to our facilities," said MCS Superintendent Randy Fleenor.

Construction is scheduled to begin in mid-March, with completion targeted in time for the first home football game this fall. "We look forward to celebrating this exciting progress with our community and providing updated, modernized facilities for our students and athletes," said Supt. Fleenor.

"We hope to see you at the groundbreaking event as we mark this important step toward transforming our district's infrastructure for the future," said Supt. Fleenor.

Stadium Work, Phase 2

Supt. Fleenor said it is important to note that the stadium will be renovated in multiple phases. Phase two, scheduled to begin in the Summer of 2026 and will include renovations to the current press box and the addition of a new sound system. Phase three will include the construc-tion of a new entryway and concession on the south end of the current stadium, as well as cos-metic improvement the current entry way on the north side of the stadium.

Construction Bid Packages Explained

The work captured in this bond is broken down into bid packages. For example, the work described above is in Bid Package 1A - the very first bid package. Upcoming bid packages are out-lined below with tentative timelines.

Supt. Fleenor said the bid packages listed below are currently in various stages of design. Additional bid packages, including those for field turf, the middle school cafeteria, technology, the natatorium, and others, have not yet entered the design phase but will be developed and updated in the future.

Bid Package 1A - Stadium Inner Scope

- Replace field with turf
- Replace track & field
- Replace inner perimeter fencing
- Fall 2024 - project design
- Winter 2024 - projects bidding
- Spring 2025 - project construction

Bid Package 1B - Campus Traffic Flow and Parking

- High School and Middle School parent carpool loop reworked
- Separation of buses from carpool/ community traffic
- Expanded parking in front of middle and high school
- Stadium press box renovations
- Spring 2026 - projects bidding
- Summer of 2026 - project construction

Bid Package 1C - Baseball and Softball Field Upgrades

- Update irrigation system
- Updated perimeter fencing
- Spring 2025 - project bidding
- Summer 2025 - construction

Bid Package 1D - Middle/High School Fire Alarm System Replacement

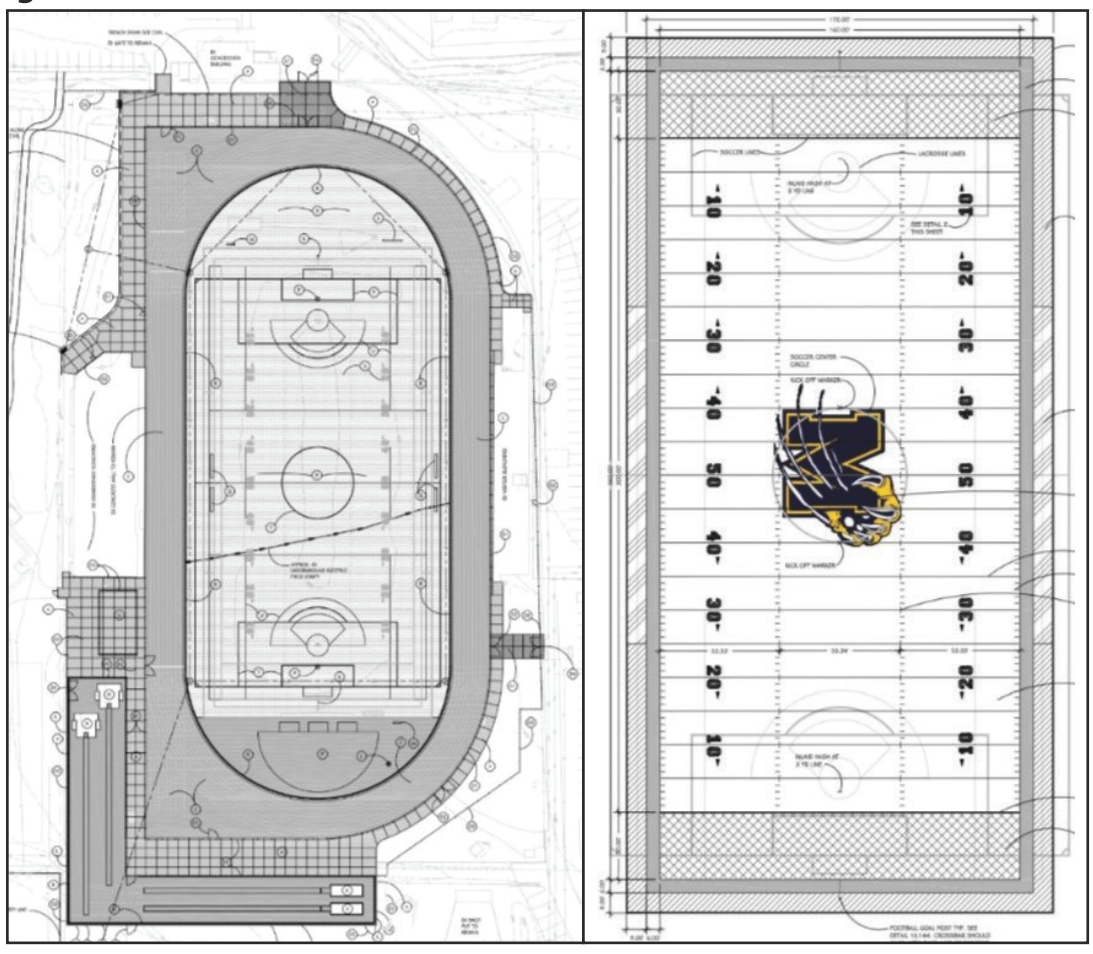
- Winter 2025 - project bidding
- Summer 2025 - construction

Bid Package 2A - New Construction Transportation & Maintenance Facility

- Winter 2025 - Design Development
- Summer 2025 - project bidding
- Fall 2025 - Fall of 2026 - construction

Supt. Fleenor said the district's focus revolves around five key objectives for the bond:

1. Preserve existing assets
2. Prioritize safety and security
3. Provide future-focused academic and extracurricular experiences for our students
4. Enhance infrastructure
5. Demonstrate fiscal responsibility



Safety and Security:

- Addressing traffic congestion, lack of parking spaces, and separation of traffic and busing through enhancements
- Replacement of outdated, unreliable security equipment at each building

Transportation:

- Continued replacement of an aging bus fleet

Academic Learning Spaces + Experience:

- Replacement of original, aged classroom equipment and furniture at middle and high schools
- Updates to original, outdated science areas at middle and high schools (excluding the newly renovated portions) to ensure students have state of the art experiences.

Fine Arts:

- Upgrades to lighting and media equipment at the high school auditorium

Infrastructure:

- Replacement of original, outdated lockers, bathrooms, various ceilings, and lighting at middle and high schools
- Renovations to high school weight room including expansion to address overcrowding and scheduling issues for student athletes and physical education courses
- Upgrade of aged building controls at middle and high schools (water, fire, HVAC, etc.) to provide the most efficient and safe environmental controls
- Addition of cooling to main gymnasiums at the high school

Student Athletic Experience:

- Renovation of aged high school locker rooms
- Renovation of the high school stadium, including artificial turf, new entryways, expanded concessions
- New high school track - the current track is backwards and nearly unusable in the current condition
- Upgrades to baseball and softball fields
- Construction of a new multi-use turf field (soccer, lacrosse, football)
- Maintenance of existing practice fields; addition of a new outdoor practice space

Other Construction:

- Addressing overcrowding in the current Middle School cafeteria
- Replacement of aged, quickly deteriorating tennis courts
- Replacement of aged transportation building and maintenance building
- Construction of a fieldhouse facility for indoor practice teams/band to address lack of 12-month practice space; available for community use
- Construction of a student/community pool

Occupant found dead in Lawton house fire

By Paul Garrod
Staff Writer
news4garrod@gmail.com

LAWTON - Van Buren County Sheriff Daniel Abbott reported that Van Buren County Sheriff's Office deputies and detectives are investigating a fatal house fire that occurred Friday, February 21, at approximately 7:08 a.m., in the 29000 block of Shaw Road, near Big Cedar Lake.

An alarm company notified Van Buren County Central Dispatch that a heat detector had been activated, and they were unable to make contact at the residence. The Lawton Fire De-partment responded immediately and arrived to find the residence on fire. Sheriff Abbott said the Lawton Fire Department was able to get the fire under control and prevent further destruction of property. Deputies arrived shortly after the fire department and, from previous contacts, knew that the residence was occupied by a single person who lived alone.

Upon further investigation and after the fire was under control, one person was found deceased in the residence. The cause of the fire is unknown currently.

The Van Buren County Sheriff's Office was assisted by the Medical Examiner's Office and Michigan State Police Fire Investigations Unit.

Lawton approves subcommittee to look into future of playing fields

LAWTON - At the Feb. 11, Lawton Village Council meeting, the council continued discussion on the Lawton Youth Softball and Baseball Little League fields and talks about the village selling the land to increase its taxbase, faced with declining revenue and ongoing village expenses.

The village council approved a motion to form a subcommittee with the Lawton Youth Softball and Baseball Program members to work together and discuss the future of the fields, as well as solutions.

Lawton Village Council President Josh Appleby said the Lawton Village Council wants to be transparent and work together, and hopefully they will understand village issues as the village council understands the plight of Lawton Youth Baseball and Softball.

Dessirae Sweet, president of the Lawton Youth Softball and Baseball Little League Board, speaking on behalf of the four board members, said they appreciate what the Lawton Village Council is doing. Sweet said just as it is in the interest of the council to serve the taxpayers, it is her interest as president of the board to serve the Little League.

Sweet told the Lawton Village Council that their board has addressed looking into other properties, however, the board did not come up with anything within cost for their fields. Sweet said they were told that they cannot purchase the fields, as the village would like to sell them to increase the tax base. Sweet said the fields cannot be split, as again, the village would like to utilize the buildable space to increase tax base. Sweet said that at the current time, another location has not been developed by the village, and use of the high school and middle school fields would not be doable due to the space of the high school fields.

The village has given verbal assurance that the 2025 season would not be in jeopardy. Sweet said as a Little League board, a huge financial strain would be placed on them to move the fields. She estimated that a new field would cost $1-to-$2 million. Sweet said that currently, the Lawton Youth Softball and Baseball is non-profit, and provides scholarships and equipment to those who cannot afford to join. She said they allow for late registration as they don't want the youth to miss out on the opportunity.

Lawton Village Council President Josh Appleby told the Lawton Village Council and those who attended the meeting that this is not a discussion any of them wanted to have, but in order to provide the residents' perspective, he read the following prepared statement on behalf of the village:

"Why is the village of Lawton considering development of the 27-acre property currently utilized by the Lawton Youth Baseball Program? Simply put, we are a small village of 1,800 residents, inflation has far outpaced revenue, and without some growth or significant tax increases the village will be unable to maintain infrastructure and services. We all pay taxes to the county, township, schools, and the state, as well as other millages such as libraries, veterans' services, Conservation district, county road millage, special assessments for the drain commissioner etc. It makes our taxes look very high, and they are, but it is important to understand where the money goes and what it is used for. The money that makes its way to the village is small."

Village Council President Appleby said of the village general fund budget, $490,000 in taxes is paid by village residents and businesses. State revenue sharing is $253,000, while LCSA reimbursement is $130,000. "This is the tax businesses used to pay on personal property and is reimbursed by the state. Nobody knows from year to year how much this will be, or if it will simply disappear. All together our general fund is $873,000."

He continued, "The Lawton Police department costs $545,000 for three officers, a chief, some part-time employees, equipment and crossing guards. That leaves $327,000 for everything else the village does such as cemetery maintenance, office staff, tree removal, parks, mowing, trash removal, blight enforcement, equipment purchases, building maintenance etc."

Appleby said the village faces challenges of deferred maintenance over the years due to budget constraints.

"Our parking lots are in disrepair, our sidewalks need repairs, our village hall is aging and needs maintenance, our Department of Public Works building leaks, is full of mold, is too small, and is generally falling apart. Our plow trucks are old, our bucket truck is broken beyond repair, our leaf equipment is inadequate. Kids' Dream is deteriorating, we need a vac truck desperately to maintain drains and service our water system. Our employees, who are highly dedicated deserve better compensation on top of the ever-increasing costs of healthcare (up 13 percent again this year)," said Appleby.

Appleby said about the village's recent projects, and where the money came from. "Reid's Corner was funded with a grant of $850,000. The village council planned the streetscape project for 15 years, saving funds as we went, most of the cost was under the road in all new infrastructure, replacing failing pipes. We bring in $197,466 in the local street millage, from that we maintain all the parking lots, sidewalks and local road repairs, including plowing and leaves. Leaves were $70,000 this year and still are not done. We bring in $240,000 for streets from the state, that money can only be used for road repairs and an additional $25,000 from the county, again earmarked only for road repairs. For reference a mile of road can be $1 million, and that is on the low end of estimates."

He continued, "The sewer and water systems are enterprise funds, meaning they are fully supported by the users and no tax funds, general funds, state funds etc. are used for their operation. If you are not paying a water bill you are not paying into the system."

Appleby told the village council and those attending, "Our police department is fully funded by the people who pay taxes to the village of Lawton, but also end up serving people who do not pay for their services. We are proud to be able to include all our students who do not live in the village. The fire department is fully volunteer, equipment is purchased through a millage covering the fire district. No general fund dollars are used to support them or the Lawton Quick Response Team."

Appleby emphasized, "We can't tax our way out of this, we can continue to cut services and watch our beautiful town dwindle away, or we can actively pursue opportunities."

According to Appleby, the village has already eliminated two Department of Public Works positions. "Todd (Hackenberg) is currently doing double duty as DPW superintendent and village manager. We have eliminated two full-time police positions. We are running a skeleton crew and cannot afford to lose any more staff."

Appleby said for more than eight years, the village has been discussing the development of the ball fields with the Baseball Board. "Together, we have discussed many potential opportunities and the village's willingness to be part of that team. We have discussed other village owned properties, including the additional 160 acres of land behind the water treatment plant. We hired a company to do a feasibility study and determined the land is too wet to build on. We have discussed several properties that are privately owned as feasible for development, but they are not under village ownership. In addition, we have infrastructure available at the 27-acre village property that may be prohibitively expensive to develop in other areas."

Appleby said the village has been successful in applying and receiving grants to beautify the downtown, a major priority as defined by the residents of the community. "We have developed a new town square due to the generosity of the Reid family and grant dollars; we have started upgrades at the park utilizing grant dollars including the addition of pickleball courts soon to be installed. We have worked tirelessly to maintain the best police department, department of public works and office staff our small budget can accommodate. We have aggressively pursued blight enforcement and have even condemned and torn down some of our worst buildings. We are encouraging infill and secured a grant to remove the Washington Street house so it can be redeveloped. We have updated the village's Master Plan, our zoning ordinances, and are pursuing a redevelopment ready community status to make us eligible for additional grant dollars and opportunities. We have a functioning Downtown Development Authority and an engaged planning commission. We have a village council that is open-minded and focused on the community without personal gain or agendas. We have amazing residents who volunteer to make our community the best town in West Michigan. To be clear, the sale and development of the village's 27 acres is not a cash grab. The only way the village can continue to prosper where we have functioning services, safe neighborhoods and supported businesses is to grow our residential community. We need more people to pay into the system, use our water and sewer, frequent the business and become involved in the community. We need quality housing of various types so our residents can live their full lives without having to change communities."

Appleby said the only buildable piece of property the village owns is the 27 acres where the ballfields reside. "Currently they are utilized approximately 2.5 months of the year, free of charge, for a great purpose. The reality is that many of the users are not village residents and are not paying village taxes. It would be to the benefit of all if we could work together to develop a recreation facility in the township or with the schools where all users are sharing in the real and opportunity costs."

Lawton Village Council member Nicole Smith then read a prepared statement. "I would like to make a statement to the public. My name is Nicole Smith. I understand that this has been a difficult and emotional time for many people. I have been serving as a council member for over four years and recently started a new term. I have learned a lot in the last four years being on the council. I have served alongside these individuals and I can assure everyone in this room that this board has the good of the community at the forefront of all decisions that are made for the Village of Lawton."

She continued, "The Village of Lawton is about two square miles. When you look at other neighboring communities this is not a lot. We as a council are responsible for the Lawton Police Department. This department alone costs the village over $540,000 per year. This is an expense that is solely on the people that live in the Village. The department goes outside of the two-mile radius to help other townships, and this bill is covered completely by the Village of Lawton. The police department also plays a huge role in the school, keeping all our children safe when needs arise. This is a service that we as a council have heard is important to the people that live in the village, and we are dedicated to continuing this service to the community."

She continued, "The village currently has a deficit financially. As explained at the meeting on Jan. 28. Inflation has affected the costs of the village greatly. We are coming up short on services we are currently responsible for providing the community. We discussed these short falls with the baseball/softball board and the community members who attended. It costs over $70,000 per year to do leaf pickup. We as a village have been failing to successfully provide this service to the village year after year. We have roads within the village that are falling apart and very limited resources to fix the roads. The DPW building was also discussed and the many issues that building has. We have aging equipment that is not keeping up with the demands of the village."

Smith stressed, "This is not mismanagement, quite the contrary, it is the reality. I have been a member of several boards since moving to Lawton. I served on the baseball/softball board for several years. I would like to state for the record that during my time on that board we were made aware of the village's intent to sell the fields. A question I have is what has the baseball/softball board done to secure or investigate other options? To my knowledge, there has been nothing of this nature discussed with the village. From what I am gathering, and from the events that have transpired over the last several days, the expectation is the village is supposed to do this for the program."

She said, "As a council member, my job is to solve issues that are related to the village of Lawton, when needs or issues arise in the village, it is my job to help come up with a solution. As members of the baseball/softball board have you been looking at solutions for the location of the fields, or have you been waiting on others to solve this for you? It is disappointing that community members and members of the baseball/softball board have taken to social media and the media to tell the community things that are not true."

Smith said, "As a person who has been a member of several boards, it is never appropriate for a board member to take to a keyboard to dispense only snippets of information and not all the facts to further a cause. People who have never been to a council meeting, and that don't live in the village have put a petition out to recall the village president, and the recall contains several statements that are untrue. The village has been transparent about the issues we are dealing with, and they have also been honest. There have been comments made on social media that the village has mismanaged money and resources and that is why we are selling the fields. These statements are simply false. I have served alongside these other six council members for over four years, and I can assure you all that none of the decisions made are taken lightly. The members of this council have served in the community not only as council members, but in so many other ways. You have seen them volunteering at sporting events, being football chain gang members, coordinating parades, summer fest, volunteering with senior citizens, planting and watering flowers downtown, volunteering as firefighters, and the list goes on. Selling the fields is a difficult decision and every one of us has signed up to do hard/difficult things. We have exhausted the resources we have, and we are short. If we don't fix this problem moving forward with other services, the village provides to the community will be in jeopardy due to lack of funds. Emotions don't pay bills. We as a council have been transparent with the community on our issues and we cannot continue to levy more financial responsibility on the taxpayers in the village. We will tax people out of wanting to be in the community. Thank you."

Several Village of Lawton residents and non-residents spoke about Little League items during Citizen Comments.

Megan Richter, a non-resident, said she is a former Lawton Youth Baseball Softball board member, and informed those at the village council meeting that the issue came up in 2020. She said she is someone who likes to look for solutions, and that is her intent. Richter said for her family, baseball and softball are like breathing, Richter's husband is the varsity baseball and softball coach, as well as providing other functions for Lawton High School.

According to Richter, in 2020, when the youth organization found that the village was going to sell the fields, it caused an uproar then as it is now. Richter said at that point, the solution was to work together to collaborate, and a committee was formed.

Richter said the solution then was for pickle factory fields to serve as a new location for the ballfields. The discussion at the time was for the village to do this through funds collaboratively led by the village. According to Richter, the village council was also going to use the sale of the fields money to put toward a new field location. Richter questioned why the village's stance to work together changed and why the village did not bring the issue to the organization.

In response to Richter, Village Council President Appleby said it is not the village council's desire not to collaborate. The village council has not given a hard date to vacate, which is a possibility if that is an issue for the league board. Appleby said there would be a proposal for a committee later in the evening.

Appleby said the village does not own the pickle factory fields and assured that the village council is very willing to work with the Little League.

Emily Taylor, of 511 E. Second St. told the village council she does not mind paying additional taxes for a youth program. She asked council members how much the sale of the land would bring in, and how that would impact future inflation.

In response to Taylor's questions, council member Judith Peterson said the standard is four houses per acre, which comes up to a little more than 100 homes when all 27 acres are included. Peterson said that calculations under consideration are 100 plus new students for Lawton Community Schools, average water and sewer for 100 homes per month, and average taxable value on the new homes being built. Peterson was unsure of exact numbers for the calculations being considered.

Taylor then asked if the village does not currently have those numbers, it is more difficult to work with the Little League. "If we bring more homes into the village, we have more children who could benefit from this program as well," said Taylor.

Kelly Stephayn-Liddington, a non-resident, said that her daughter played in the Little League program, and now coaches softball at Western Michigan University, Kalamazoo. Stephayn-Liddington asked the village council if she could read a statement from her daughter, as she was unable to attend.

The statement read, "For many people who don't know these fields were made by my grandfather. These fields were a huge reason I got into the sport and dedicated myself to it, made many memories with friends surrounding the sport, and led to my reason for coaching but my grandfather's legacy lives on. His passion for helping and caring for others carries on here. The Village of Lawton is trying to sell the land for the growth of the community, it would help with growing the community long-term, however, it's not the fields that made the memories but the people. This experience was shared among people who provided that dedication together. The solution may look a little different and may be finding different fields, but the program can still go on."

Mike Stephayn, of 710 E Fourth St., spoke on behalf of he and his wife, Lisa. Stephayn said his father started the Little League program.

Stephayn said his father had dementia and he could walk to those fields and remember them. Stephayn said, "His father's legacy is not the fields, it's the program. The village didn't build those fields his father did."

According to Stephayn, the fields would have never happened if volunteers hadn't stepped up. Stephayn said he is laying it out there because his name is attached to it. He volunteered to serve on a committee dealing with the issue.

Madison Ludwig, head coach and teacher at Lawton Community Schools, said with the help of Derek Weurding, they have worked to grow their middle school program. She said the program has flourished in part because of the youth Little League and Softball program.

Ludwig said, "We are risking taking away vital programs from these kids. Our local teams are a source of pride and spirit fills the air on game day. Ludwig said the fields have a lot of long-term consequences if they are gotten rid of. Ludwig said the loss of recreational fields is going to last longer than housing benefits in our future.

Chris Richter, Lawton Community School's Athletic Director, said in 2020 Rick Reeves stated the money from the sale of the property would go toward building a new property and wanted to know if that was still the case.

Village Council President Appleby said he was not saying yes or no at this point to that, as in 2020 they were presented with a very different plan than what they have now. Appleby said a housing study done by the county showed what type of housing the village is lacking. "We are not looking for more low-income housing, we are looking for market level housing if someone is interested. Appleby said there has been a lot of interest expressed on a trail. He would like to see it maintained and turned into a trail to Paw Paw.

ROYAL WEED
MARDIA GRAS DEALS
Through March 4, 2025
DELIVERY OFFERED W/IN 15 MILE RADIUS
ALL EDIBLES
Mix & Match (Wyld, GoodTide, Monster, PC Pure, Evolution, Platinum, Barracuda Bars, Fudge, beverages, olive oil & much more!!) - B2G1 FOR 0.01
PRE-ROLLS
• Reg $4 Pre-Rolls - 8/$20 (indoor flower)
• All INFUSED Singles Mix & Match (Jeeters, CaviGold, CaliBlaze, Uplyfted, Hy-R & More!) - B2G1 FOR 0.01
• ALL INFUSED PreRoll Packs - B2G1FOR .01
DISPOSABLES
Goodlyfe - 1G CONCENTRATES 3/$28
COUPON FOR 0.01 PREROLL OR SINGLE EDIBLE
While Supplies Last.
Ckeck out our Website for additional pop up Specials! Royalweedmi.com
(269) 415-0675. 42800 W. Red Arrow HWY, Paw Paw, MI 49079

2ND FRONT PAGE

SHAES extracts motorist from rolled over vehicle

SHAES responders needed to delicately assist a motorist who was trapped in his vehicle when it rolled over after striking a sign post in the parking lot of the Walmart store on Monday afternoon. After stabilizing the pickup, responders cut out the windshield so the motorist, who was not in-jured, could escape.

Mattawan's Sophie Roberts selected as National Merit Finalist

MATTAWAN - Mattawan High School senior Sophie Roberts was recently selected as a National Merit Finalist.

Over 1.3 million juniors in about 21,000 high schools entered the 2025 National Merit Scholarship Program by taking the 2023 Preliminary SAT/ National Merit Scholarship Qualifying Test (PSAT/NMSQT®), which served as an initial screen of program entrants. The nationwide pool of Semifinalists, representing less than one percent of United States high school seniors, includes the highest-scoring entrants in each state. The number of Semifinalists in a state is proportional to the state's percentage of the national total of graduating seniors.

To become a Finalist, the Semifinalist and a high school official must submit a detailed scholarship application, in which they provide information about the Semifinalists academic record, participation in school and community activities, demonstrated leadership abilities, em-ployment, and honors and awards received. A Semifinalist must have an outstanding academic record throughout high school, be endorsed and recommended by a high school official, write an essay, and earn SAT® or ACT® scores that confirm the student's earlier performance on the qualify-ing test.

From over 16,000 Semifinalists,

more than 15,000 are expected to advance to the Finalist level, and in February they were notified of this designation. All National Merit Scholarship winners will be selected from this group of Finalists. Merit Scholar designees are selected based on their skills, accomplishments, and potential for success in rigorous college studies, without re-gard to gender, race, ethnic origin, or religious preference.

Trinity Lutheran students compete in wind energy challenge

PAW PAW – Trinity Lutheran School's third and fourth grade students recently competed at West-ern Michigan University, Kalamazoo, against teams from across the state in Kidwind, an alternative energy competition.

Students spent the last several weeks working after school to design and build a windmill that would produce the maximum amount of energy. They tested several different blade designs, varied the number of blades, and changed the pitch to the wind direction seeking the best design to maximize energy output.

Their work paid off by having the design that far outperformed all other elementary, middle school, and even high school team designs at Friday's Feb. 21 competition.

The overall competition was based on their energy output from their windmill design, an interview before college professors and students on WMU's Bronco Wind Team where they pre-sented their data and discussed their design process, and an instant on-site design challenge. Trinity's students ranked second overall in the elementary division.

Coach Bill Semrau said, "I am proud of our students and all the work they put in after-school. I am impressed with how much energy they were able to create with their windmill, and that their design outperformed all the others at the competition. These students did a great job trying out different designs and using data and the scientific method to choose the best design. We also had great parental support, and the support of our principal Jody Tuls as well as our school board. I know we are all looking forward to seeing how they will take what they learned this year and do even better next year."

Student comments on what they liked from Kidwind:

"I liked how fast the windmill spun at the challenge, and I liked the instant challenge to build something on site." – Elijah.

"I liked how we got to build a car at Western and use the fan to make it go"- Lucas.

"I learned that is was actually pretty fun to build all the blades and learn the science be-hind how windmills work." – Sophie.

"It was neat to see the college design that looks like a prop to go on a submarine." – Jacob.

Andrea Barbre, a Trinity Lutheran teacher and parent, said of the event, "I like that the students got a new experience through the Kidwind competition, especially getting feedback from judges outside of our school on their presentation. I think they take that feedback differently than hearing from their same teachers. Overall, this was a new experience for them, and a great way to grow."

Another parent, Dave Bogda, said, "I liked that the people at Western who ran the compe-tition were awesome, really nice to the kids and open to helping them. It was great that we could have a failure (on our windmill), then go fix it and come back to test it again. People running the competition were laid back and relaxed. I liked how welcoming they were, and genuinely seemed to care about the kids and helping pass along knowledge to them. I would highly recommend any student to get involved with Kidwind."

From left, Coach Bill Semrau, Sophie B., Oliva B., Jacob B., Elijah F., Lucas B., and Addisyn S., celebrate their No 1 top score in energy produced by a windmill. *Photo courtesy/Trinity Lutheran School*

From left, Trinity Lutheran School students, Addisyn S., Sophie B., Elijah F., Lucas B., Jacob B., and Oliva B., with their presentation and data. *Photo courtesy/Trinity Lutheran School*

STEGMAN RE GROUP LLC
Call Brian: 269-208-4492
BROKERED BY RE/MAX LAKESHORE
EACH OFFICE IS INDEPENDENTLY OWNED AND OPERATED.
Call Nick: 269-214-6594
With over a century of combined experience, we expertly serve all of your real estate needs in Southwest, Michigan and more.

For more information or to place an ad Call (269) 657-3072 or 657-5080 BEFORE MONDAY AT 5PM

FOUNE WELL DRILLING INC.
Since 1970
RESIDENTIAL - COMMERCIAL - IRRIGATION
WELL DRILLING & REPAIR
4" - 8" Wells
Specializing in 5" PVC Wells
Member of Michigan and National Ground Water Association
GROUND WATER PROFESSIONALS
628-2700
33215 M-43 • Paw Paw
STATE LICENSE #80-2159

GET YOUR NEWS ONLINE
Sign Up Today for our E-Papers. IT'S EASY!
Just visit our website @ epaper.wilcoxnewspapers.com to start your $20.00 email Subscription.

Avink, McCowen & Secord Funeral Homes
Loss is hard enough... Service should be easy
Avink McCowen Secord Funeral Homes and Cremation Society
Vicksburg (269) 649-1697 Manager Steve McCowen
Schoolcraft (269) 679-5622 Manager Zach Siple
Portage (269) 344-5600 Manager Chris Keyes
Plainwell (269) 685-5881 Manager Tim Secord
www.amsfuneralhomes.com

PAW PAW DISTRICT LIBRARY
CHECK IT OUT!
UPCOMING EVENTS 3/3- 3/8
Monday, March 3 3 pm-4:30 pm Book donation drop-off day at LookSharp Marketing 37174 W Red Arrow Hwy, Paw Paw, MI 49079
Tuesday, March 4 3 pm-4 pm TEENS: Zen Zone
Wednesday, March 5 6 pm-7 pm CHILDREN: LEGO Night
Friday, March 7 10:30 am-12 pm ADULTS: Memory Cafe Musicians Tracy Hageman & Gregg Andres
Saturday, March 8 10 am-12 pm ADULTS: Internet Users Group Texts, Contacts, & Messaging
Visit pawpawlib.org or call 269.657.3800 for more information!

VIEWPOINT

How do our public servants amass their huge new worths?

MIKE'S MUSINGS

MIKE WILCOX ■ PUBLISHER ■

I often wonder if I chose the wrong profession. Don't get me wrong I love my work, but sometimes toiling 60 hours a week becomes kind of a drag at my age.

I should have run for election and become a member of Congress. Salary isn't too bad at $174,000, but what is really enticing are the benefits. Free healthcare, free office allowance (huge benefit), free retirement benefits and on and on.

But what really attracts me is the amount of net worth career politicians amass. I don't have a clue how they do it (I have my suspicions) but some of them walk into office with very little money and after 20 or 30 years they are worth tens of millions of dollars.

Remember their pay is $174,000 a year. Over 20 years, if they didn't spend a dime on any household expenses, they would have $3.5 million. But we all know mortgages, groceries, car payments, kids, etc. can eat up most of that $174,000. Maybe we have some left over to invest in stocks but over 20 years that gain wouldn't amount to over $1 million.

So what is the magic behind the phenomenal new worths of some career politicians? Our elected officials need to share with us ordinary people their keys to financial success.

For instance how does former Senate minority leader Mitch McConnell, who has been a public servant for more than half a century now have a net worth of $95 million? What is his side hustle? The guy can barely walk or talk, but man he knows how to make money.

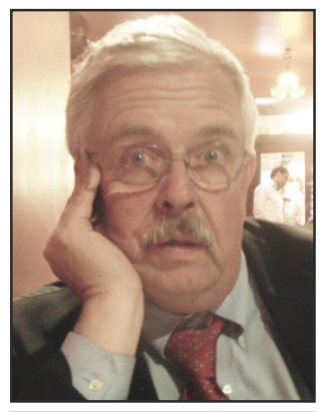
His counterpart in the House of Representatives, Nancy Pelosi, again a career elected official, is said to be worth more than $200 million. Some say she has a keen eye for stocks that are about to explode. Others claim that key eye comes from insider trading. Whatever it may be she needs to share her secrets with her constituents.

And the list goes on and on. Chuck Schumer, Senate minority leader, is said to be worth $75 million; Sen Elizabeth Warren is worth over $50 million; and even champion of the people, Sen. Bernie Sanders has amassed a nice nest egg. All are career politicians, making that $174k a year.

It's not a Democrat or Republican thing. All politicians that have been in office for a long time seem to retire with large nest eggs. If I were a cynical sort, I would possibly think they received millions from lobbyists and donors seeking favors from the politicians. But then I reverse course, and realize our public servants wouldn't take money like that. Or would they?

One might also conclude the fortunes amassed by career public servants is a good reason to consider term limits seriously. As I have pointed out in the past, U.S. presidents, and state legislatures are limited in the number of years they can serve. Why should Congress be any different? Limit Senators to two terms or 12 years and limit House members to 4 terms or 8 years. That would eliminate career politicians and the fortunes they amass.

Life as Performance Art



G CORWIN STOPPEL

I find it hard to keep up with all the executive orders being signed by our President, then trying to understand how they might impact my life.

One of Trump's orders that caught my attention directed the people in charge of making our coins to stop cranking out new pennies. The rationale seems right on the mark. A penny, worth one cent, costs about four cents to produce, so from the start it's a losing proposition. Even so, it was a jarring thing to read.

Pennies were part of my life as a child. My sister and I each saved them in pint jars with slots cut in the lid. Once the jar was filled, parents took us and our stashes to the bank, converted them into paper money and we stopped by Mae's Pantry to by a ceramic steer with a slot in the top and cork in the bottom.

Why The Olds called them piggy banks was a mystery to me. I just knew it was a lot larger than a pint jar and would take longer to fill.

After that the money went into our brand-new official savings deposit book where each entry was initialed by the president. No, not the one in Washington: the real one who ran the bank!

When I was in the third grade a coin collector persuaded my dad there was "real money" in coin collecting and some pennies were worth a lot of money. In particular, the fabled 1909 VDBs and 1914s from the Philadelphia mint.

The old boy saw the potential for gold in all that copper, so one her persuaded the bank president to sell him $100 worth of unrolled pennies. They came straight from parking meters, which meant no one had gotten the jump on us looking for that 1909 model.

He came home that night carrying several cloth bags for the free labor (aka my sister and me) to start going through them, one coin at a time. He had a list for each of us that included the two aforementioned pennies and a few others.

Much to Mother's initial displeasure, he poured them on the breakfast table in a little alcove off the kitchen.

We went to work, picking up each penny, looking at the date, and either setting it aside for the Chief Inspector (Father) to determine the value, or putting it in a bowl to be returned to the bags.

What started off as a great quest for treasure soon became tedious. One hundred dollars of pennies is 10,000 pennies. The only redeeming feature was now and then we found at least one of value. Among them, the steel pennies from the World War II, a 2-cent piece from a century earlier, and one night a $10 gold piece.

Father said the gold coin was probably pinched by some teenager from his father's collection to use in the parking meter.

That deduction was followed by a sermon about not stealing things, even a penny, and never driving a "hot" or "flash" car. It was the first step on the slippery slope that led to detention in school, slicked-back hair, rock 'n' roll music and eventually juvenile hall.

If that hypothetical boy didn't amend his ways, he would end up at the state prison in Stillwater or suffer through a miserable old age at the County Poor Farm. In between, he would never have more than a low-paying menial job. At least I had the good sense not to ask, "You mean like looking at pennies?"

Father was never cut out to be preacher, so his sermon made little impression on us. Far more intimidating was whenever Mother looked over her glasses with "that look" every child fears. Deeds count more than words count.

We finished our work and thought that was the end of it. Wrong. Father had made a profit of some $20, not including the gold piece which he did not mention to anyone because it was illegal to own gold in that era. Instead, he put the gold coin away, gave my sister and me each a crisp new $1 bill and took Mother out on a date night.

He got his money back plus on the pennies and reinvested it in, you guessed it, another 10,000 copper coins. This went on for a couple months until he became exhausted watching us work.

But if anyone thinks Trump's order means that we won't be looking through our change for a valuable penny, they might think again. There are some 260 billion pennies now in circulation.

Some are in piggy banks, some between furniture cushions or under car seats Some are hoarded away by Olds who have lifetime stashes in buckets in their basements. And somewhere out there is another 1909 VDB just waiting to be discovered.

All of which means that even with the executive order, we are not going to run out of pennies for a few more decades. Just know there is no point digging a hole in the basement floor to hide them. Today's pennies are primarily made of zinc with a bit of copper for color. Even with the price of copper steadily climbing, it is a losing proposition to melt down your pennies, siphon off the zinc and make copper bars.

Yet to leave them in the ground means they will corrode down to not much of anything worthwhile.

As for stashing them away for the future, just keep one word in mind: inflation.

LETTER TO THE EDITOR

Dear PPHS Community,

I want to take a moment to express my deepest gratitude for not giving up on a kid who could have easily taken the wrong path. Paw Paw High School is a truly special place, and it wasn't until I moved on that I realized just how much its high standards shaped my life.

First and foremost, thank you for being an incredible influence. As I reflect on my time at PPHS, I am struck by the Profound and lasting impact this school had on me. Your guidance and support carried me through challenges I didn't fully understand at the time, and words cannot adequately express the respect and appreciation I have for this community.

I am deeply grateful for everything the staff and coaches did for me. While I may not have been the most outgoing or well-behaved student, I always knew what was expected of me because of your unwavering leadership. Through your influence, I grew in ways I never imagined. I became more engaged in school - though I have to admit, my favorite parts were still lunch, PE, and sports (kidding, but not entirely!). But what mattered most was knowing that someone genuinely cared about me. PPHS made me feel valued, and that made all the difference.

In my career in education, I strive to honor the lessons I learned from PPHS. You taught me not to label kids but to lift them up and show them their worth. You instilled in me the importance of building confidence, encouraging excellence, and leading with compassion. Today, as I manage my athletic department and teach leadership classes across Michigan and beyond, I share the very principles you embodied: never give up on a child, because every child has value - and it's our job to help them see it. That's exactly what PPHS did for me and so many others.

I couldn't let this moment pass without extending my heartfelt appreciation to everyone who played a role in my journey. To my mother - thank you for showing me what hard work looks like. To my brother - thank you for always pushing me toward excellence.

Thank you for everything you've done. I know it wasn't always easy, but you never gave up on me. PPHS saw value in me when I struggled to see it in myself. You cheered me on when I needed it most, and you have shaped my life in countless ways. For that, I will always be grateful.

PPHS and this community are truly amazing - please never forget that.

With gratitude,
Michael Roy, CMAA

OBITUARIES

Lois (Carnell) Jewell

Lois (Carnell) Jewell, affectionately known as "Mother Jewell", 103 years old, was called home and transitioned to be with the Lord on Friday December 20, 2024, at South Haven Nursing and Rehabilitation Community in South Haven, Michigan. Lois was born February 21, 1921 to Lurlen and Cynthia Pearleen Carnell of Waukegan, Illinois.

Lois graduated from Wendell Phillip Academy High School in Chicago, Illinois. Lois as a young woman and mother moved with her family to South Haven, Michigan. Lois's work career spanned many years with varied work and life experiences. She touched many lives. Lois worked as a domestic worker for many families where she imparted her faith, wisdom and love into the lives of the adults and the children of those families in her care as well as to her own children and grandchildren. Later Lois had an employment opportunity open for her at the South Haven Community Hospital in the Dietary Service Department where she interacted with co-workers and patients sharing her faith in the Lord and her unique witticism, building lifelong relationships for many years. Lois worked at the South Haven Community Hospital from 1966 until her retirement in 1986. She later moved to Briar Hill Townhouse (fondly called 'Her Little House') in South Haven, where she would display and showcase her many collectibles with her family and friends.

At an early age Lois professed her love of Jesus Christ and accepted Him as her Lord and Savior. She was actively involved with the church throughout her life and as a young mother and grandmother she raised her three children and grandchildren Troy and Michael in the church. As a young woman she and her late cousin and friend Dickie Johnson met in their homes and studied the Word of God together, and Lois became very versed in the bible.

Lois was a founding member of several churches during her lifetime and was a former member of Emmanuel Community Church. She later served under the leadership of her late aunt the Reverend Mary Rolland, founder of Kibbie Community Church of South Haven, Michigan. Lois served under the late Reverend Henry Goins, the late Reverend Laura Holland, Reverend Cleophis Johnson, and Pastor Jeff Terry and currently under the leadership of her close friend and Senior Pastor Bernice Thomas of Greater Faith Community Church of South Haven, Michigan, of which she was a founding member. Lois Jewell was a servant of the Lord and shared the love of God and her faith by serving on multiple auxiliaries and committees. She served in the Kibbie Church Choir and was the Kibbie Church Clerk for many years, and a supporter of the Forgotten Men's Prison Ministries and believed in spreading the gospel to incarcerated men and women. Lois was officially ordained as a Stewardess in 2005. She later became a member of the Greater Faith Community Church Mother's Board.

Lois loved reading, writing, journaling, crossword puzzles, music, Asian art, butterflies, jewelry and fashion. Her fashion sense and style was always impeccable. She had an impressively large music, book collection and other holiday season collectibles. Lois enjoyed a long and interesting life that included travel and going on her first "cruise" with her son George and his family. She traveled to many states to visit family and friends. One of her favorite destinations was Arizona to visit her niece Edwina (Roger) Camplin and enjoy the sun and the "Queen" treatment. Lois enjoyed spending time sharing her life experiences, wisdom and faith with her family members' friends and talking about the Lord.

Lois celebrated her 100th Birthday with a "2021 Drive-by Parade" with family, friends and the South Haven Community including the South Haven Emergency First Responders, celebrating her 100th Birthday during the Covid 19 pandemic season. It was arranged by Rosemary, Rosie', Swagerty. Also in 2021, the Van Buren County Michigan Board of Commissioners issued and, "Resolved that Lois Carnell Jewell be recognized as an Illustrious Centenarian" and a loved

and respected member of the Community. Resolution and Proclamation Certificates were personally presented to Lois by Mayor Scott Smith and Commissioner Gayle Patterson-Gladney of South Haven, MI, an article was written in the South Haven Tribune.

Lois was preceded in death by her parents, her sons: George Stansberry, Jr (2013) and Ronald Stansberry (2018), her daughter Sandra Ellen Stansberry (2016), her brother Lurlen Carnell, Sr. (2016) and Sister Velda J. Cresswell (1987).

Lois leaves to mourn and cherish her memories - her grandchildren: Cheri Stansberry Singleton of Bonney Lake,WA, Troy David (Paula) Stansberry of Grand Haven, MI., Michael (Amy) Harris of Covert, MI, Roman A.(Favi) Stansberry of Evanston, IL, Stephanie D. Stansberry, Miguel Stansberry of Lacey, WA, and her daughters-in-law, Juanita Stansberry of Evanston, IL, and Patricia Ray Stansberry of Biloxi, MS. A special niece Monique Savage of Ann Arbor, MI and a special nephew Malcolm Scott of Hatto, TX, and a host of nieces, nephews, great grandchildren and great-great grandchildren, and other relatives, Rosemary Swagerty, Darryl, Darren, Alyssa and Landen, Monique, Tavyan and Liam Swagerty, Pastor Bernice Thomas, the Greater Faith Community Church Family and a host of friends that spanned over 100 years.

Lois's latter years were spent at the South Haven Nursing and Rehabilitation Community where she continued to share with her fellow residents and the nursing staff her knowledge, wit, spirit, love and steadfast faith in the Lord. When asked her secret for her long life, she would simply state, "THE LORD."

A special thanks to Connie Jorgenson for her gifts of flowers to Lois for every Holiday and Birthdays over many many years. All of those bouquets probably inspired Lois's favorite quote:

"Our mind is a garden, Our thoughts are the seeds, You can grow flowers, or You can grow weeds".

Memorial gifts may be made in memory of Lois Jewell to:

Greater Faith Community Church, 03219 County Road 687, South Haven, MI 49090.

A Memorial Service for Lois will be held March 15, 2025, 11:00 am at Filbrandt Chapel, 1076 South Bailey Ave South Haven, Michigan 49090.

Those wishing to share a memory of Lois online may do so at www.starksfamilyfh.com.

Arrangements have been entrusted to Filbrandt Chapel - Starks Family Funeral Homes and Cremation Services. Phone: 269-637-0333.

Glennie Collins Wilson

Glennie Collins Wilson, 105, of Paw Paw, passed away peacefully Saturday, Feb. 15, 2025, at Rose Arbor Hospice, Kalamazoo.

She was born Oct. 9, 1919, in Dowagiac, MI, the daughter of Frank Lyle Brookfield and Nettie Eldora (Pecher) Brookfield.

Glennie worked for many years at Heddon Fishing Tackle, the first company to produce artificial fishing lures. Glennie lived in Michigan, Tennessee and California, but eventually made her way back to Michigan in 1992. Along with her own incredible memories of America 100+ years ago, Glennie loved to share stories about her own grandmother, who was a traveling minister back when the Dakotas were only a territory. She was a talented crocheter and would crochet 300-400 hats for the Kalamazoo Gospel Mission to give out on Christmas every year. Her family cherishes their own crocheted hats they were gifted. Glennie enjoyed doing jigsaw and crossword puzzles and reading. She will be deeply missed by her loving family.

She is survived by her daughter, Mikki Danneffel; grandchildren, David Labadie and Glenda Sealy; great-grandchildren, Jessica, Jason and Misty and great-great grandchildren, Hope, Lauren, Robin, Keegan and Shiloh. She is also survived by her K-9 companion and best friend, Rosie.

Glennie was preceded in death by her parents and husband, Billy Wilson.

Cremation has taken place. Per Glennie's wishes, there will be no public services at this time. She will be laid to rest in Tennessee at a later date.

Memorial contributions may be directed to Centrica Care Navigators Rose Arbor Place.

Share a memory or sign the online guestbook at adamspawpaw.com

Holtec Launches "Mission 2030" to deploy America's first SMR-300s at Palisades

Shown above is an artist's rendering of Holtec's proposed twin-unit SMR-300 small modular reactor, which would add an additional 600 megawatts of baseload generation to the Palisades site, nearly doubling its capacity.
Photo courtesy/Holtec Palisades

Holtec has launched "Mission 2030," a program to build America's first small modular reactors – Holtec's SMR-300 – at the Palisades site in Covert Township, with a target of 2030 for first commercial operation. The new SMR-300s will be co-located with the existing 800-megawatt Palisades plant, which is on track to restart after an extended outage following shutdown in 2022. Together, the historic plant restart and addition of two SMR-300s make Southwest Michigan ground zero for America's nuclear renaissance. Tuesday's Feb. 25 launch ceremony spotlighted significant milestones in Holtec's site preparation work for the SMR-300s and included signing of an expanded alliance agreement with Hyundai Engineering & Construction to build a 10-gigawatt fleet of SMR-300s in North America through the 2030s, beginning with the landmark Palisades project.

Since the announcement of the Palisades SMR-300 project in 2023, Holtec has made substantial progress, including detailed site and environmental studies to choose a location for the plant within the Palisades property, establishment of a groundwater monitoring program, and completion of soil borings. Holtec has invested over $50 million USD to date in the SMR-300 site development and environmental activities, keeping our schedule to start the formal U.S. Nuclear Regulatory Commission construction permitting process early next year. Alongside site preparation, Holtec has been intently engaged in public and government outreach on the project. The SMR-300 initiative has been met with overwhelming backing from community leaders and local, state, and federal government stakeholders, reinforcing the strong support already behind the Palisades restart. The SMR project will help meet growing demand for reliable, clean energy, while also creating hundreds of permanent high-paying jobs, bolstering American manufacturing, and growing the local tax base. These efforts are poised to generate significant reverberating economic impacts in the surrounding community, furthering the region's long-term prosperity and energy security.

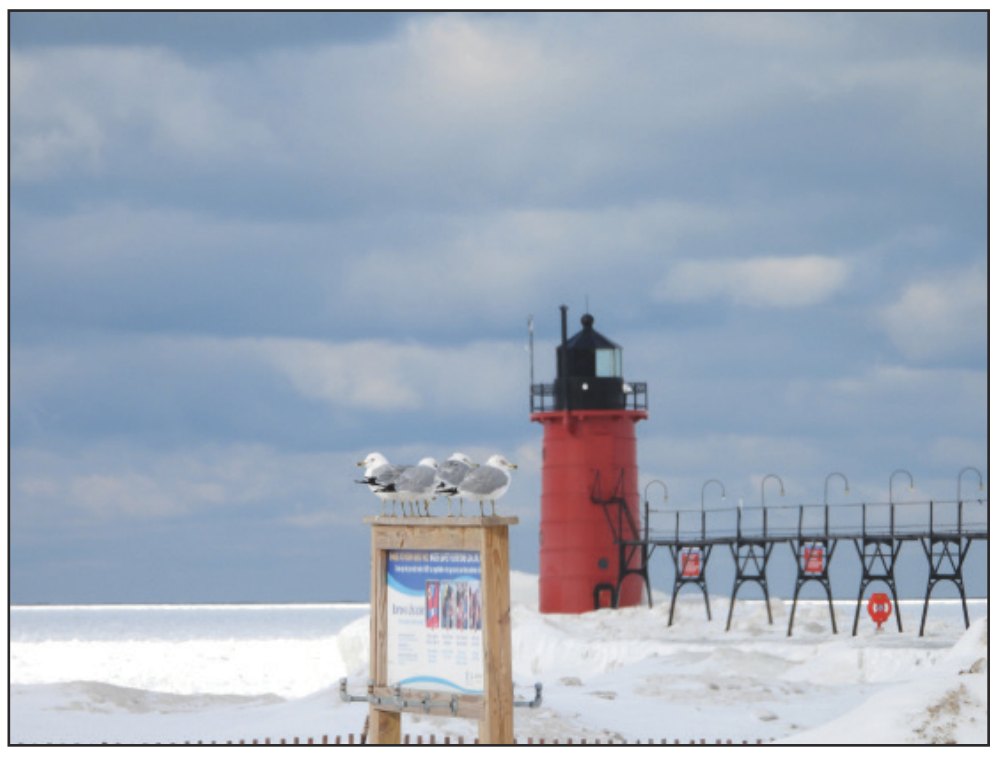
In preparation for construction of the Palisades SMR-300 plant, Holtec on Tuesday, signed an expanded cooperation agreement with Hyundai E&C for SMR-300 construction, expanding prior collaboration forged in 2021. The exclusive partnership will enable rapid scaling of the SMR-300 program based on learnings from the first-of-a-kind SMR-300 project at Palisades. Holtec's President of Global Clean Energy Opportunities, Dr. Rick Springman, said, "The key to making SMR deployment faster and more cost-effective isn't just learning from the industry - it's applying those lessons directly to each new project. With Holtec's in-house manufacturing and Hyundai E&C as our construction partner, we control most of the process, allowing us to refine and improve with every reactor we build. That's how we scale smarter and deliver reliable energy where it's needed most."

Holtec's CEO Dr. Kris Singh, hailed the expanded partnership with Hyundai E&C as a pivotal development, stating, "Hyundai E&C has the most distinguished credentials as a constructor of nuclear power plants, having built and commissioned the largest reactor complex in the last decade in the UAE on schedule, which is a rare achievement in our industry. Our own vertically integrated supply capability and a world-class project management organization, which has established a solid track record of completing numerous complex projects around the world without cost overruns, gives us the confidence that our 'Mission 2030' will be realized in full measure. We should also recognize our long-term ally and the third pillar of our SMR coalition, Mitsubishi Electric [Kobe, Japan, and Pittsburgh, U.S.] whose state-of-the-art control system will be deployed in the SMR-300 plants."

Hyundai E&C CEO Han-Woo Lee reinforced the commitment to U.S. clean energy investment, stating, "Hyundai E&C has established its U.S. subsidiary, Hyundai America Inc., and has been making diversified investments in U.S. power projects and SMR-300 technology. To ensure the successful completion of this project, we will work closely with the U.S. government and leading local companies to build a systematic supply chain, create high-quality jobs in the U.S., and develop strategies for mutual growth with local communities, ultimately pioneering a new era in the global SMR industry."

Holtec's SMR-300 is an advanced, passively safe, pressurized light water nuclear power plant, designed to produce 300 megawatts of clean, reliable energy – enough to power 300,000 homes. As an advanced Generation 3+ reactor, it uses gravity as the motive force to run its safety systems earning the "walk-away safe" designation. With the ability to build SMR-300 plants, service them throughout their operational life, safely manage the spent fuel, and decommissioning them at the end of life, Holtec – an American company with an international footprint – is uniquely positioned to compete in the world market against state-backed reactor vendors. The Palisades SMR-300 project will serve as the global reference point for deploying this next-generation nuclear technology, unlocking opportunities worldwide and advancing U.S. leadership in clean energy innovation.

Bird's-eye view of SH lighthouse



Tom Renner snapped this scenic photo at South Beach in South Haven last week.

Area Church Services

PAW PAW

ALMENA UNITED METHODIST CHURCH
27503 CR 375
Pastor Len Schoenherr
668-2811 • www.almenaumc.com
SUNDAY
Worship - 11 a.m.
(Childcare Provided)
FRIDAY: AA- 8 p.m.

••••

COVEY HILL BAPTIST CHURCH
33566 28th Avenue
(corner of 28th & M-40)
269-628-2139 • www.coveyhill.org
Pastor Daniel Wilson
SUNDAY
Worship @10:45am
Nursery & Children's Church provided
Messages available on YouTube

••••

FAITH OF THE APOSTLES CURCH
34580 M-40 Highway
Elder David Harn
1 (269) 512-4586
SUNDAY
Christian Education - 10 a.m.
Wroship Service - 11:30 a.m.
WEDNESDAY • Bible Study - 7 p.m.

••••

FIRST BAPTIST CHURCH
32464 Red Arrow
Pastor Horace M. "Buddy" Turner... 657-2090
SUNDAY
Worship - 11 a.m.
on Facebook:
www.Facebook.com/buddyturner2 or search:
"Buddy Turner"

••••

FIRST PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH
120 Pine St, Paw Paw
Worship: 11am Sundays
in person or online at -
www.pawpawpres.com or
www.youtube.com/@1stprespawpaw

••••

NEW HOPE FAMILY
201 W. Michigan Avenue
Pastor Mark Roberts
www.newhopefellowship.org
SUNDAY
Morning Worship - 10 a.m.

••••

PAW PAW SEVENTH-DAY ADVENTIST CURCH
60409 South M-40
Pastor Sean Reed
Lawn Services - 10 a.m. & 11 a.m.
www.pawpaw.church
Oline worship services on Facebook & YourTube

••••

PAW PAW UNITED METHODIST CHURCH
657-7727 • 420 W. Michigan Ave.
Pastor Dan Phillips
SUNDAY Service: 10:00 am

••••

RED ARROW MINISTRIES
31133 Red Arrow Highway
Rev. G. Ben Bowater, IV Founding Pastor
SUNDAY Worship - 9:30 a.m. & 11 a.m.
www.redarrowministries.org for live stream worship

••••

ST. MARK'S EPISCOPAL CHURCH
412 Cedar Street
Handicap Accessible
657-3762 • www.stmarkpawpaw.com
e-mail: stmarkspawpaw@gmail.com
Mailing Address:
P.O.Box 307, Paw Paw, MI 49079
SUNDAY Worship 9:30 a.m.

••••

ST. MARY'S ROMAN CATHOLIC CHURCH
500 Paw Paw Street
Rev. Fr. Alan P. Jorgensen
657-4459
SATURDAY Vigil - 4:00 p.m.
SUNDAY MASSES - 9AM & 11AM
Holy days & Daily Masses
Consult Bulletin

••••

TRINITY LUTHERAN CHURCH & SCHOOL
721 Pine Street
Pastor Phillip Phifer
Church: 657-4840
School: 657-5921
Sunday Services 9 a.m. & 11 a.m.

••••

TRUTH CHURCH
32560 56th Ave. • 657-5042
www.truthchurchpawpaw.com
Pastor Steven Green
SUNDAY
School - 10 a.m.
Evening Service - 6 p.m.
THURSDAY Bible Study - 7 p.m.

••••

IGLESIA DEL ESPÍRITU SANTO/ CHURCH OF THE HOLY SPIRIT
30037 E Red Arrow Hwy., Bilingual
Pastors Maggie and Jay Salas
Domingo/Sunday:
Adoración | Worship- 10 a.m.
Jueves/Thursday: Oracion/ Estudió Bíblico | Prayer/Bible Study- 7 p.m.
(269) 377-6514/ (269) 993-6727

LAWTON

DAILY HARVEST MINISTRIES
117 S.Franklin Street
Pastor Jack Shanley
SUNDAY Worship - 10:30 a.m. & 6 p.m.
WEDNESDAY Bible Study - 6 p.m.

••••

IGLESIA PENTECOSTES
Eel Movimiento misionero Mundial, Inc.
Bilingual
117 S. Franklin Street
Pastors Arturo & Lourdez Hernandez
(616) 656-0137
SERVICES
Domingo - 9:30 a.m.
Martes y Jueves - 7:30 p.m.
Local: (269) 655-8071

••••

LAWTON EVANGELICAL CHURCH
425 S. Nursery Street, Lawton • 624-1524
Call if you need help in some way
www.lawtonevan.com
SUNDAY Worship Services - 10 a.m.
We offer Nursery and Children's Church

••••

NEW COMMUNITY CHURCH
502 N. Main Street, Lawton, MI 49065
Pastor Adam Potgiesser
Sunday Worship 10am
www.nc2online.com • facebook.com/nc2online
(269) 299-2003

••••

ST. PAUL'S UNITED METHODIST CHURCH
624-1050
Pastor Ashlei Horn
SUNDAY Worship - 10:00 a.m.
www.stpoulsumclawton.com or on Facebook
www.Facebook.com/Lawton-St-Pauls-UMC

MARCELLUS

ST. MARGARET MARY CATHOLIC CHURCH
296 E. Dibble St.
Rev. Fr. Alan P. Jorgensen
668-3312
SUNDAY - 9:45AM

••••

HARMONY CHAPEL
88067 C.R. 652 (In the SW corner of Porter Twp.)
Rev. Ron Packer
269-548-7348
Please join us as we continue to Worship in the Country Since 1894
SUNDAY Service - 12:30 p.m.
For mor information or directions call:
Neal Ferguson: 269-624-6837 or
Ann Nesbitt: 269-624-6781

DECATUR

DECATUR BIBLE CHURCH
80797 M-51, Decatur • (269) 423-5111
Pastor Steven Pace
Sunday School 9:45 a.m.
Worship 11:00 a.m. & 6:00 p.m.
Wednesday Bible Study &
Prayer 5:00 p.m.
facebook.com/DecaturBibleChurch • http://www.decaturbible.org

••••

Decatur New Hope Community Church
319 ½ West Delaware Street
Pastor Ross Tarantino
SUNDAY • Worship Service-10:00 a.m.
TUESDAY • Bible Study-1:00 p.m.
269-423-8136
info@decaturnewhopecommunity.net

MATTAWAN

CALVARY REFORMED CHURCH
7829 S. 5th St
Pastor Gregory VanHeukelom
375-6240 • www.calvaryreformed.org
SUNDAY Worship - 10 a.m.
Also acailable on Facebook live • JODI's Closet - Free Clothes
2nd Saturday of the month • Check website for additional days

••••

FAITH BAPTIST CHURCH
56070 Murray Street
Pastor Chuck Rawsthorne
SUNDAY
School - 9:30 a.m.
Morning Service - 10:30 a.m.
(In person and on Facebook)

••••

MATTAWAN COMMUNITY CHURCH
23680 Front Ave.
668-3263 • www.mattawancc.com
mattawancommunitychurch@gmail.com
Pastor Eric Baird
SUNDAYS AT 10:25 A.M

••••

ST. JOHN BOSCO CATHOLIC CHURCH
23830 Front Ave.
Rev. Fr. Alan P. Jorgensen
668-3312 • www.stjohnbosco.com
SUNDAY Mass - 9 a.m. & 11 a.m.
SATURDAY 4 p.m.

LAWRENCE

UNITED METHODIST CHURCH
Corner of Exchange & James Street • 674-8381
Pastor Doug Tipken
SUNDAY Worship - 11 a.m.
lawrencemethodist-church.org
for information of online videos

GOBLES

NORTHPOINT MINISTRIES OF GOBLES
04077 M40 • 269-628-9199
northpointgobles@gmail.com
Pastors: Gary Lounsberry & John Losen Jr.
Sunday: 11am - Morning Worship
Monday: 7 pm - REFRESH Bible Study
Wednesday: 7pm - Prayer Meeting

DIRECTORY OF CHURCH SERVICES IS PROVIDED BY THE FOLLOWING SPONSORS

THE CLOTHES BASKET
314 Paw Paw Street
Paw Paw • 657-6441

DE TSMIA
Insurance Agency, INC.
130 N. Main Street
Lawton • 624-4411

CAMPBELL MURCH
CEMETERY MEMORIALS, INC.
56556 Main Street
Mattawan • 668-3350

Adams FUNERAL HOME AND CREMATION SERVICES
ADAMS FUNERAL HOME
Serving the Community Since 1948
504 W. Michigan Avenue
Paw Paw • 657-6347

ho
HIEMSTRA OPTICAL CO.
Michael Houser & staff
133 E. Michigan Avenue
Paw Paw • 657-4511

St JULIAN winery • distillery
Michigan's Oldest & Largest Winery
716 S. Kalamazoo Street
Paw Paw • 657-5568

BRONSON LakeView Hospital
408 Hazen Street
Paw Paw • 657-3141

SPORTS

Gobles wrestlers set for state finals

By John Raffel
Correspondent

GOBLES — Gobles wrestling coach Erin Carlin provides this assessment of his state wrestlers who will compete this weekend at Detroit's Ford Field in Division 4.

Danny Timms, 106 pounds, 42-9 record 2nd SAC, 1st at Districts, 2nd at Regionals. Freshman.

Erin Carlin: "Danny has had a solid year a freshman. He enters the state championships as the number 5 ranked 106 pounder. He is really growing as a wrestler. He has a favorable draw and if he sets his pace and focuses on the

controllables, Danny has a real chance to become Gobles' second freshman placer (with Finn Carlin in 2024).

Devin Doorlag, 126 pounds, 42-11 record, 2nd at Districts, 2nd at Regionals

2024 State Placer – 8th.

Erin Carlin; "Devin is arguably our most complete wrestler. He is good from top, bottom and neutral. He is very coachable mat side. His mindset is solid and he just loves wrestling. He enters the state championships as the No. 4 ranked 126 pounds. He has the playoff experience and I would not be surprised to see him battling for placement on the top half of the podium."

Mason Mansfield, 157, record of 51-3; 2nd at SAC, 1st at Districts, 1st at Regionals; 2023 State Placer – 8th; 2024 State Placer – 5th

Erin Carlin: "Mason is our most exciting wrestler. He can take anybody down with his speed, power, and amazing athleticism. He is very coachable mat side, and he has the playoff experience. He enters the state championships as the number 1 ranked 157lb, and I believe that if Mason maintains his pace and

focuses on wrestling his match, it is a real possibility that you will see him wrestling in the championship match Saturday evening."

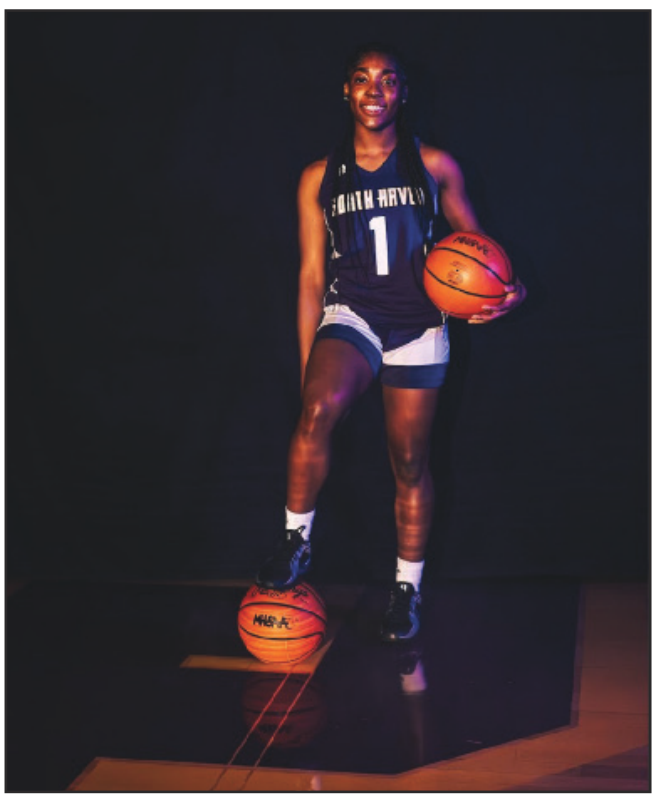
Colton Colingsworth, 165 pounds, 38-15; 4th at Districts, 3rd at Regionals.

Erin Carlin: "Erin Colton is our Dark Horse. He has had his doubters all year, yet here he is in the state championships. He exemplifies gratitude on the mat that shows that practice performance yields match performance. A hard worker and coachable kid who gives everything he has to become a better person. He enters the state championships ranked 13 at 165lb. His lack of play-off experience makes it hard for me to predict where he will end up, but I have learned never to bet against this young man."

Brody Marshall, 190, 53-6; 3rd at Districts, 3rd at Regionals.

Erin Carlin: "Brody is tenacious on the mat. He can beat you many ways, but one things is certain, he will never quit. He enters the state championships as the number 7 ranked 190 pounds. Brody has a real chance of being another placer for Gobles as long as he sets his pace and keeps his ear on the coaches mat side."

South Haven girls are conference champs



Ly'Nique Cunningham has had recent games with 33 and 31 points.

By John Raffel
Correspondent

SOUTH HAVEN — South Haven's girls basketball team went into this week with a 13-6 record, but the Rams have already clinched the Southwest Athletic Conference Lakeshore title outright.

They did this outright on Feb. 14 with a 51-25 win over Bridgman. This is the second consecutive year the Rams have won the SAC title outright.

Ly'Nique Cunningham had another big day with 33 points, 10 rebounds and three steals. DaVyne Crowley had two points, two rebounds and two assists. Neveah Cooper had three points and four rebounds. Regan Hahn had two points and three rebounds.

Prior to this win, South Haven suffered two nonleague losses. They fell to St. Joseph 46-39 on Feb. 10 on the road. Cunningham had 21 points, five assists, six rebounds and two steals. Cooper had five points and five rebounds plus three steals. Charlotte Grzybowski had six points. Crowley had six rebounds and four steals. Molly Verseput had five points and eight rebounds.

"We came back after a poor start," SH coach Joey Weaver said. "We made a few costly turnovers in the fourth that left us short."

The next day, South Haven lost to Saugatuck 51-48. "We had a solid game despite several layers fighting illness and injury," Weaver said.

Cunningham had 32 points, six steals, seven rebounds and two assists. Charlotte Grzybowski had three rebounds, two assists and two steals. Crowley had six points, two rebounds and two steals. Molly Verseput had six points and eight rebounds. Regan Hahn had four points and seven rebounds.

South Haven lost 71-48 to Kalamazoo Hackett Catholic Prep on Feb. 17 in Kalamazoo. Cunningham had 21 points followed by Crowley with 14, and Hahn with four.

Weaver said the Rams had a "tough road loss" at Allegan on Feb. 21, by a 47-44 score. South Haven finished 9-1 in the conference while Allegan was 8-2. Cunningham had 21 points, Crowley 10 points and Grzybowski six points.

South played at home with Berrien Springs on Feb. 25 and has a district game at home with Parchment on March 3.

Gobles female wrestlers surpass expectations

This is Gobles first year with an all-girls' varsity wrestling team. To say it was a great year would be an understatement. This team surpassed many expectations and will only continue to grow as a team and as individuals.

Alyssa Sparks known affectionately as "Sparky" was a force to be reckoned with in her first year as a varsity wrestler. She showed that with grit and determination, anything is possible. She showed no fear against some of the toughest opponents in her weight class. As one of our first girl regional qualifiers, Alyssa will only continue to grow as a wrestler, and we can't wait to grow with her.

Freedom Morris took a huge leap in the right direction this year. Her mat awareness, self-confidence and pure grit helped her excel far above what even she thought was possible. She was named the first girl "Hammer of the Week" in week 5.We look forward to seeing what the next two years will bring for Freedom and to watch her grow as a wrestler and a team leader.

Daisy Estrada is another one of our second year wrestlers. After a rough start to the season and battling a concussion for most of December, Daisy finished the year as our second regional qualifier. Daisy is naturally athletic and fast on her feet. We look forward to watching Daisy grow as a wrestler. With her driver for success, she has the potential to do great things on and off the mat.

Sydney Raseman is a first-year varsity wrestler that returned to the sport after a 2-year hiatus. She has a contagious smile and can be seen smiling even when she's sick or stuck in an unbearable move. I'm sure that with more mat time and practice, more varsity success will come her way.

Neely Ketchum is a special kind of soul. While battling an extreme amount of pain and sickness throughout the whole season, she showed up when the pain allowed and was the team's biggest cheerleader. She was grateful for every match she was able to wrestle and every practice she was able to participate in. She brings a special kind of light to the team, staying positive even while in pain.

Orion Ennis joined the team last year as a Junior.

She stuck with the hardest sport there is for the entirety of her last two years of high school. She faced the adversity with smile and pushed through the tough days. She is an inspiration to the other girls on the team and the coaches as well. The one thing that we as coaches hope that she has learned from wrestling is that she can do anything she wants with some hard work and that big heart of hers. We wish her well in her future endeavors.

Gobles Varsity Girls finished the season with three out of six wrestlers finishing above 500, brought home 27 total medals, including 4 Gold, 6 silver, 7 bronze, and 10 4th place finishes, had two regional qualifiers, and one hammer of the week winner.

None of this would be possible without all of you and the community support we get. We are extremely grateful to everyone that helped make this a great season.

Bowling teams compete in regionals

By John Raffel
Correspondent

PAW PAW — Paw Paw girls were ninth in the Division 2, Regional 12 bowling tournament last week at Kalamazoo.

Kendall Flowers Schade led Paw Paw with a 636 for 51st place.

The Paw Paw boys were 12th in the regionals at Kalamazoo's Continental Lanes. Tanner Rabbitt was 50th with a 926 for Paw Paw.

Mattawan girls took eighth place at the Division 1 regional at Revel and Roll West in Kalamazoo. Kayline Miller-Pike was 27th with a 792 to lead Mattawan.

For the boys, who were 12th, Gabriel Watson was 48th and Hunter Selleck was 49th with 857

Gobles bowling at M66 Bowl in Battle Creek. The boys were 12th and led by Ismael Ramos-Martinez with a 817 for 39th. The girls did not have a team.

Driver's License Restoration | Drunk Driving & Criminal Defense
It's a Process... We Can Help! | "Friends... Don't Let Friends Plead Guilty!"
08/03-15FL
Law Office of
FREDERICK J. TAYLOR
269-388-6060 • 1-800-250-FRED

Mattawan hockey season ends

By John Raffel
Correspondent

MATTAWAN — Mattawan's hockey season end on Monday, Feb. 24, with a 1-0 loss to Grandville in Regional hockey action.

Mattawan had a final record of 20-5-1.

But it was still an excellent senior season for Mattawan forward Carson Smith.

"I thought we played well," Smith said after a late-season 4-2 win over Big Rapids.

As of late season, Smith had 11 goals for Mattawan. It was his fourth year on varsity and his best season.

"It was definitely from having more experience," Smith said.

The key behind the team's outstanding success, Smith said, was "having very strong goaltending plus the bonding on our team. It's pretty awesome."

One of Smith's favorite memories of the season was a long trip to Alpena and a 7-6 shootout win.

"We ended up getting the win in a shootout and that'd felt well, he said. 'I think my biggest strength is my vision and being able to see the ice."

Smith had hopes of having a deep run in the playoffs.

"We have to keep working,"he said.

Smithpalys lacrosse int he spring.

"I'm definitely a hockey guy,' Smith said. "I've bene around hockey for 10 years."

THE COURIER LEADER
PAW PAW FLASHES
SOUTH HAVEN BEACON
PUBLISHED WEEKLY BY WILCOX NEWSPAPERS, LLC
PO Box 189, Allegan, MI 49010
(269) 657-3072 • wilcoxnewspapers.com
Publisher - Mike Wilcox Reporter - Paul Garrod
Graphics- Liz LaValle IT - Jordan Wilcox
PERIODICAL RATE POSTAGE PAID AT PAW PAW, MI 49079-0129
Postmaster-Send address changes to:
PO Box 189, Allegan, MI 49010

we know insurance can be complicated.
luckily, we're experts.
simple human sense
MCKENZIE INSURANCE
303 E Michigan, Paw Paw, MI 49079
Hrs: Mon-Fri, 9-5; Sat by Appt.
mckenziemi.com • 269.657.2548
Auto-Owners INSURANCE
LIFE • HOME • CAR • BUSINESS

Golden Greens Provisioning Center
North of I-94 Exit 52, Lawrence, MI. Recreational 21+!
270 Crandall Pkwy (269) 539 - 9000
Golden Greens

Locally owned, operated & family run since 2021!
Weekly Daily Deals!
MONDAY - FRIDAY: Spend $100 get a penny Pre Roll!
Monday: 10% off Edibles All Day!
Tuesday: Buy 2 get 1 Wyld Gummies & Extra 1/2 gram flower w/ each 3.5g purchased!
Wednesday: 10% off Carts & Concentrates All Day!
Thursday: 20% off when you wear your GG apparell in store to shop! *BULK & discount flower excluded*
Friday: 10% off Edibles All Day!
Saturday: Extra 1/2 gram flower w/ each 3.5g purchased!
Sunday: Spend $20 in store to spin the Prize Wheel for a deal!
Everyday: *Subject to Availability*
• Assorted Pre Pack Ounces starting @ $25 + tax!
• Deli style ounces starting @ $60 + tax!
• Deli style grams $3 - $7
• Pre-Rolls starting @ $2
• Infused Pre-Rolls starting @ $6
• High Dose Edibles starting @ $5
• 1g concentrates starting @ $10
Penny Pre Roll with purchase for first time customers & REFERRALS! Veterans, Seniors & MED Card holders get 10% off!
Discounts & Deals do not combine or stack, exclusions apply
Not for sale or consumption by anyone under 21 years of age, valid govt. issued photo ID required for entry and purchase
All product specific specials subject to "While Supplies Last"

SPORTS

Paw Paw basketball boys clinch title

By John Raffel
Correspondent

PAW PAW — Paw Paw defeated Otsego boys 64-41 last week to clinch the league title outright

The Wolves had quarter leads of 21-6, 33-16 and 50-29.

Truman Brennan had 21 points, three rebounds, six assists and three steals. Barron Marinich had 12 points, three rebounds, two assists, one steal. Eli Sonnenberg had nine points, eight rebounds, two assists and five steals

Caden Bowen had nine points, eight rebounds, three assists, and two steals.

"The Red Wolves started off their last regular season game, and seniors' last home game, with a bang," Paw Paw coach Aaron Beery said. "Otsego came into the game with many injuries and illness which led to a depleted roster. The Red Wolves did not take them lightly and played their brand of basketball for four quarters. This victory gives the Red Wolves their first Wolverine Conference Championship since rejoining the conference. It is their first conference title since 2003-2004.

"This caps off a much improved season compared to the 2023-24 campaign where the Red Wolves went 9-13 in the regular season. The Red Wolves end the 2024-25 regular season with a 19-3 record and 12-2 record in the Wolverine. The Red Wolves now turn their focus to the postseason where they look to make a deep run. They play in a tough district so that will be no easy task.

At home on Tuesday Feb 18, it was Paw Paw 53, Portage Northern 51. Paw Paw had quarter leads of 17-8, 28-17 and 40-34.

Caden Bowen had 17 points, three rebounds, two assists and two steals. Kaelin Tate had 13 points, three rebounds, two assists and three steals. Truman Brennan had 10 points, two rebounds, five assists and two steals.

"The Red Wolves came out fast in the first quarter," Beery said. "We were playing well on both ends of the floor. The second quarter was pretty even between the two teams. In the second half, Portage Northern dominated the Red Wolves being able to take the lead a couple of times in the fourth quarter. Each time Portage Northern took the lead, the Red Wolves had an answer. On their last possession, while down one, Truman Brennan penetrated the defense and found Caden Bowen on the wing, who knocked down an open 3 to give the Red Wolves a 2 point lead with 7 seconds left.

The Red Wolves survived a last second three from Portage Northern to move to 18-3 on the season.

"It was a quality win over a quality Division 1 opponent," Beery said.

South Haven cheerleader caps off fine career

It was Cora Eddy's senior season for South Haven cheerleaders.

By John Raffel
Correspondent

SOUTH HAVEN — South Haven cheerleader Cora Eddy recently capped off a fun career on her team.

"My team has done well so far, especially so early in the season," Eddy said. "We were only 0.6 points away from reaching our goal from hitting last year which was hitting 600. Our team has been growing over the years and slowly increasing our skills and presence.

"I think I have done pretty well so far this year. I have earned a front spot in both round 1 and 2 which I try my hardest to prove my spot there. I am also a flyer in round three and have some progress that could be made, but am always giving it my all."

Eddy said she has improved greatly in flying over the years.

"As a freshman, I was far from hitting my one-legged stunts. Now as a senior, I hit all my stunts very well and learned thievery early in the season. I have also improved in the technical areas of jumps, motions, tumbling and splits, making these actions cleaner and more precise," Eddy said.

"For our sideline season, I was named captain. This was a great honor and I tried my best to encourage and excite my teammates. My role was different this year became I was named captain but I like to think that I have always acted in this way. I am often referred to as a quiet leader because I like to set an example for my teammates.

"My strengths are keeping my motions tight and precise, I like to think that I make my coach and teammates proud in the way that I perform and present myself when I am competing.I worked on my flying skills by focusing on my restrictions and mental blocks. I was able to complete many skills that I before was unable to do because of fear."

Senior night was memorable for Eddy.

"I felt appreciated from my coach and my teammates," she said. "They always make me feel loved, praised and respected. Most moments with my cheer team are very memorable because they have become some of my closest friends. Some team highlight have been hitting every skill in our last competition and almost hitting 600. We were determined to have a comeback and prove ourselves at this competition.

"We complete our rounds very well and we intend to continue to improved. We have already almost exceeded our goal of 600 points made last year so I am excited to see what can be done and accomplished throughout this season. Over my years in high school, it was been so enjoyable to watch my team improve every year in many different aspects."

This is Eddy's final sports season.

"I know I will miss it greatly," she said. "It is a bittersweet end but I am so happy to have spent it my life with cheer."

Bangor boys lose to White Pigeon

By John Raffel
Correspondent

BANGOR — It was a big win Monday night for Bangor varsity boys basketball. As Bangor defeated Decatur 60-32 in the first round of districts. Carson Pullins made six threes, scored 24 points, and grabbed six steals. Julian Pullins scored 13 points. Jonah Luter scored 11 points and added 4 assists. Jaret McCoy and Terrance Payne each had 9 rebounds.

The next district game is Wednesday vs Hartford at Coloma High School at 5:30 p. m.

Bangor varsity boys basketball lost at White Pigeon on Friday night Feb. 21, 78-57. Jonah Luter made six threes and scored 23 points. Carson Pullins made three triples and scored 19 points for Bangor.

Julian Pullins made three triples and scored nine points.

On Feb. 18, Bangor lost to Bloomingdale 54-36. Julian Pullins made 5 threes and scored 17 points. Carson Pullins scored 9 points and had 7 assists.

Bangor lost 71-40 at Comstock on Feb. 11.

Jonah Luter scored 22 points. Julian Pullins made three triples to score nine points.

Jaret McCoy scored seven points and had nine rebounds. Terrance Payne also had nine rebounds.

Bangor varsity boys basketball lost to Marcellus Friday night Feb. 14, 80-47. Carson Pullins had 16 points, eight rebounds, four assists, and three steals. Jonah Luter had 16 points, three deflections, and four steals. Jaret McCoy had 15 points, four threes, and three deflections.

The Bangor boys are 3-20.

Bangor girls beat Bloomingdale

By John Raffel
Correspondent

BANGOR — The Bangor girls are 8-11 entering action this week.

They play at Cassopolis on Feb. 25 at home and with Hartford on the road on Feb. 27.

On Feb. 18, Bangor beat Bloomingdale 39-24. Lexi Wisniewski had 17 points. Belle Macedo had five points and Cielo Maldonado had eight rebounds.

On Feb. 20, Bangor lost 64-19 to White Pigeon.

K'Liyana O'Steen had six points and five rebounds, Madison Lennox five points andWisniewski three steals.

The Vikings, played a great first quarter only trailing conference leader White Pigeon 12-7, but then gave up 24 points in the second quarter.

Friday, Feb. 21, was senior night and Bangor lost to Marcellus 51-36.

They also lost to Marcellus 51-32 on Feb. 14 and beat Bloomingdale 39-11 on Feb. 12.

Lexi Wisniewski and Madison Lennox had 10 points each.

The Vikings, in the Feb. 14 game at Marcellus, were battling illness and injuries and missing two starters and played their sixth game in 10 days and fifth road game of the six games.

Bangor fell behind early but fought back to score 17 points in the third quarter to make it a close game. But in the fourth quarter the Vikings, with only one sub, ran out of gas.

Paw Paw cheerleaders take fifth

By John Raffel
Correspondent

GRAND RAPIDS — Paw Paw competitive cheerleaders barely missed qualifying for the state finals.

Paw Paw competed in the regionals at Grand Rapids West Catholic on Saturday.

The top four qualified for the state finals this weekend at Central Michigan University.

Tri County won it with 760.06 points after three rounds. Charlotte was second at 733.74 and Gladstone third at 72624. In fourth for the final qualifying spot was Portland at 726.30. Paw Paw barely missed fourth pole but settled for fifth with 724.28. Lakewood was sixth at 724.28. Hart seventh at 720.46 and West Catholic eighth at 715.46. Montague was ninth at 695.82 and Parchment 10th at 688.56.

There were 12 teams overall in the field.

Paw Paw scored 220.40 in the first round, 210.08 in the second and 298.50 in the third.

The objective in the three rounds is as follows:

Round 1: Cheerleaders show off their jumping skills and ability to choreograph motions.

Round 2: Cheerleaders perform a precision drill, tumbling, jumping, and flexibility.

Round 3: Cheerleaders perform stunts.

Luc's Light gala raises $30k

Luc's Light raised over $30,000 at their third annual "Shine Together Gala," held Feb. 22, at Paw Paw High School's Performing Arts Center (PAC). Money raised from the event will be used to continue providing no-cost music and art lessons to teenagers in Van Buren County at their new teen center in Paw Paw. This year's gala featured performances from Brian Vander Ark of The Verve Pipe, Aerial Ashley, Luc's Light Student Performers and Comedy Magician Trino as emcee.

Photos courtesy/Don Field and Deming Photography

Comedy Magician Trino at Shine Together Gala

Aerial Ashley - aerial performer at Shine Together Gala

Shine Together Gala Pre-show event held at St. Julian Winery

Brian VanderArk and Luke's Light student Aubrey, perform Colorful, prior to the Shine Together Gala

Lawrence girls defeat Marcellus

By John Raffel
Correspondent

LAWRENCE —It was Lawrence 55, Marcellus 42 in girls basketball action on Monday, Feb. 24

Senior Hailey Camp had 16 points. Junior Carolina Mancera had 16 points. Junior Kaylina Leyva had eight points. Sophomore Colleen McCaw had seven points.

On Feb. 18, it was Lawrence 49, Cassopolis 43. Camp had 16 points and 13 rebounds. Senior Brooklyn Remelts had 14 points which included four triples. Mancera had 13 points and 16 rebounds.

Lawrence was 13-7 prior to a game at Bloomingdale on Feb. 25. Lawrence is home with Comstock on Feb. 27 and will have a district semifinal game at home on March 5 vs. Marcellus.

Lawrence boys basketball team improved to 5-18 with a district victory on Feb. 24 over Kalamazoo Heritage Christian 50-32. The next game was scheduled to be on Feb. 26 at 5:30 p.m. vs. Kalamazoo Phoenix at Marcellus High School.

Lawrence had three losses last week to Three Oaks River Valley 47-44 to Cassopolis 66-36 and to Marcellus 66-48.

WANTED

Sales Reps

THIS NEWSPAPER is looking for sales representatives to call on local businesses and sell them advertisements in our area newspapers.

- The position would initially be part-time, but could quickly work into full-time
- Work from home or from our office
- You can set your own schedule
- Pay is commission-based
- **Previous sales experience not required, but is preferred**

If you are personable, handle rejection easily, and love to make money, this is the job for you!

wilcoxnewspapers@gmail.com **for more info**

PUBLIC NOTICE

State of Michigan
36th Judicial District • Judicial Circit • County Probate
ORDER FOR SERVICE BY PUBLICATION/ POSTING AND NOTICE OF ACTION
CASE NO.2024-0000074357-CH

Plaintiff:
Bethany Presbyterian Church
208 W. Exchange St., Gobles, MI 49055
269-628-2646
Plaintiff's Attorney:
Shane A. Henry (82054)
Wheeler Upham, P.C.
250 Monroe Ave. NW, Ste. 100, Grand Rapids, MI 49503
616-459-7100
V
Defendant:
Unknown Does
Addresses and Telephone Numbers Unknown

TO: Unknown heirs of Hiram and Susan Goble
It Is Ordered:
1. You are being sued in this court by the plaintiff to quiet title in the property located at 202 W. Exchange St., Gobles, MI 49055. You must file your answer or take other action permitted by law in this court at the court address above on or before March 27th. If you fail to do so, a default judgment may be entered against you for the relief demanded in the complaint filed in this case.
2. A copy of this order shall be published once each week in The Courier Leader for three consecutive weeks, and proof of publication shall be filed in this court.

State of Michigan
Probate Court Van Buren County
NOTICE TO CREDITORS DECEDENT'S ESTATE
Case No. -
Judge Hon. Susan Metzger
Estate of **NORMAN DWIGHT MURPHY, III, DECEASED**
Date of Birth: **JUNE 27,1955 (6/27/1955)**
TO ALL CREDITORS:
NOTICE TO CREDITORS: The decedent, **Norman Dwight Murphy, III, died December 15,2024 or Later (12/15/2024 or Later).**
Creditors of the decedent are notified that all claims against the estate will be forever barred unless presented to **Abbe M. Keck and/or David A. Keck,** personal representative, or to both the probate court at **212 E. Paw Paw St. #220, Paw Paw, MI 49079** and the personal representative within 4 months after the date of publication of this notice.
February 17,2025
Attorney:
Ean P. Hamilton P79755
3431 Oakland Drive
Kalamazoo, MI 49008
269-488-8394
Personal Representative
Abbe M. Keck / David A. Keck
3507 Robin Rd.
Nashville, TN 37204
828-337-9462
615-715-7297

State of Michigan
Probate Court Van Buren County
NOTICE TO CREDITORS DECEDENT'S ESTATE
Case No. 2025-1025-DE
Judge Hon. Susan Metzger
Estate of **ARTHUR J. ARENS, DECEASED**
Date of Birth: **--**
TO ALL CREDITORS:
NOTICE TO CREDITORS: The decedent, **Arthur J. Arens, died January 28,2025 (01/28/2025)**
Creditors of the decedent are notified that all claims against the estate will be forever barred unless presented to **Charles J. Arens,** personal representative, or to both the probate court at **212 E. Paw Paw St. #220, Paw Paw, MI 49079** and the personal representative within 4 months after the date of publication of this notice.
February 20,2025
Attorney:
Schuitmaker Moraitis Law Office, P.C.
Christopher N. Moraitis P87052
181 West Michigan Ave.,
Ste. 1, P.O.Box 520
Paw Paw, MI 49079
269-657-3177
Personal Representative
Charles J. Arens
6933 Shore Drive
Coloma, MI 49038
269-468-4694

State of Michigan
Probate Court Van Buren County
NOTICE TO CREDITORS DECEDENT'S ESTATE
Case No. 2024-1218-DE
Judge Hon. Susan Metzger
Estate of **MARVELLA GIPSON, DECEASED**
Date of Birth: **JULY 4,1923 (07/04/1923**
TO ALL CREDITORS:
NOTICE TO CREDITORS: The decedent, **Marvella Gipson, died December 23,2024 (12/23/2024) .**
Creditors of the decedent are notified that all claims against the estate will be forever barred unless presented to **Ronald Gipson,** personal representative, or to both the probate court at **212 E. Paw Paw St. #220, Paw Paw, MI 49079** and the personal representative within 4 months after the date of publication of this notice.
February 14,2025
Attorney:
Ean P. Hamilton P79755
3431 Oakland Drive
Kalamazoo, MI 49008
269-488-8394
Personal Representative
Ronald Gipson
6325 Twilight Avenue
Kalamazoo, MI 49048
269-873-6470

State of Michigan
Probate Court Van Buren County
NOTICE TO CREDITORS DECEDENT'S ESTATE
CASE NO. 2024-1215-DE
JUDGE DAVID J. DISTEFANO
Estate of **JONATHAN PALONE, DECEASED**
Date of Birth: **FEBRUARY 27,1999 (02/27/1999)**
TO ALL CREDITORS:
Capital One Bank
1680 Capital One Drive
McLean, VA 22102
Frontier
P.O. Box 740407
Cincinnati, OH 45274-0407
NOTICE TO CREDITORS: The decedent, **Jonathan Palone, died May 5,2024 (05/05/2024 .**
Creditors of the decedent are notified that all claims against the estate will be forever barred unless presented to **Philip Palone being his Dad,** personal representative, or to both the probate court at Philip Palone Address: 25815 M43, Mattawan, Michigan 49071 and the personal representative within 4 months after the date of publication of this notice.
Date: _____
Executor:
Philip Palone
25815 M43,
Mattawan, Michigan 49071
616-407-1582
Personal Representative
Philip Palone
25815 M43,
Mattawan, Michigan 49071
616-407-1582

State of Michigan
Probate Court Van Buren County
NOTICE TO CREDITORS DECEDENT'S ESTATE
Case No. 2024-1147-DE
Judge Hon. Susan Metzger
Estate of **LAWANDA HIATT, DECEASED**
Date of Birth: **DECEMBER 23,1937 (12/23/1937)**
TO ALL CREDITORS:
NOTICE TO CREDITORS: The decedent, **Lawanda Hiatt, died March 6,2024 (03/06/2024).**
Creditors of the decedent are notified that all claims against the estate will be forever barred unless presented to **Russell Hiatt,** personal representative, or to both the probate court at **212 E. Paw Paw St. #220, Paw Paw, MI 49079** and the personal representative within 4 months after the date of publication of this notice.
Date: _____
Attorney:
Thav, Ryke & Associates
Robert M. Cleary, III P84704
24725 W. 12 Mile Road, Suite 110
Southfield, MI 48034
248-945-1111
Personal Representative
Russell Hiatt
810 Green St.
South haven, MI 49090
269-599-0529

State of Michigan
Probate Court Van Buren County
CREDITORS NOTICE
Case No. 2025-1022-DE
Estate of **BRAD ALAN EVANS,** Deceased
Date of Birth: **SEPTEMBER 8,1955 (09/08/1955**
NOTICE TO CREDITORS: The decedent, **Brad Alan Evans,** who lived at 66426 M152, Dowagiac, Michigan 49047-8817, died November 25,2024 (11/25/2024)
Creditors of the decedent are notified that all claims against the estate will be forever barred unless presented to **Casey A. Evans,** named personal representative, or to the probate court at **811 Port Street, St. Joseph, Michigan 49085-1183** and the named personal representative within four (4) months after the date of publication of this notice.
February 24,2025
Attorney:
Robert L. Landgraf, Jr.
Post Office Box 1310
Niles, Michigan 49120-1310
269-683-8300
Personal Representative
Casey A. Evans
79529 Hildebrand Street
South bend, Indiana 46614

COUNTY: VAN BUREN; MTGR: LESLIE TAPIA; ATTY: ORLANS; 1ST PUB: 2/13/2025; ATTY FILE #: 25-001332; INSURER: (UNKNOWN)
ATTENTION HOMEOWNER: If you are a military service member on active duty, if your period of active duty has concluded less than 90 days ago, or if you have been ordered to active duty, please contact the attorney for the party foreclosing the mortgage at the telephone number stated in this notice.
Notice of foreclosure by advertisement. Notice is given under section 3212 of the revised judicature act of 1961, 1961 PA 236, MCL 600.3212, that the following mortgage will be foreclosed by a sale of the mortgaged premises, or some part of them, at a public auction sale to the highest bidder for cash or cashier's check at the place of holding the circuit court in Van Buren County, starting promptly at 1:00 PM on APRIL 17, 2025. The amount due on the mortgage may be greater on the day of the sale. Placing the highest bid at the sale does not automatically entitle the purchaser to free and clear ownership of the property. A potential purchaser is encouraged to contact the county register of deeds office or a title insurance company, either of which may charge a fee for this information.
Default has been made in the conditions of a mortgage made by Leslie Tapia, a single person, to Mortgage Electronic Registration Systems, Inc., as nominee for Better Mortgage Corporation, Mortgagee, dated January 16, 2024 and recorded January 23, 2024 in Liber 1761, Page 253 Van Buren County Records, Michigan. Said mortgage is now held by JPMMT HELOC Participation Trust, by assignment. There is claimed to be due at the date hereof the sum of One Hundred Twenty-Seven Thousand Four Hundred Forty-One and 33/100 Dollars ($127,441.33).
Under the power of sale contained in said mortgage and the statute in such case made and provided, notice is hereby given that said mortgage will be foreclosed by a sale of the mortgaged premises, or some part of them, at public vendue at the place of holding the circuit court within Van Buren County, Michigan at 1:00 PM on APRIL 17, 2025.
Said premises are located in the City of SOUTH HAVEN, Van Buren County Michigan, and are described as:
UNIT NO. 40, THE PRESERVE AT WOODLAND HARBOR CONDOMINIUM, A CONDOMINIUM ACCORDING TO THE MASTER DEED RECORDED IN LIBER 1487, PAGE 235, INCLUSIVE AND AMENDMENTS THERETO, VAN BUREN COUNTY RECORDS, AND DESIGNATED AS VAN BUREN COUNTY CONDOMINIUM SUBDIVISION PLAN NO. 115, TOGETHER WITH RIGHTS IN GENERAL COMMON ELEMENTS AND LIMITED COMMON ELEMENTS AS SET FORTH IN THE ABOVE MASTER DEED AND AS DESCRIBED IN ACT 59 OF THE PUBLIC ACTS OF 1978, AS AMENDED.
720 Ravine Ln, South Haven, Michigan 49090
The redemption period shall be 6 months from the date of such sale, unless determined abandoned in accordance with MCLA §600.3241a, in which case the redemption period shall be 30 days from the date of such sale.
If the property is sold at foreclosure sale, pursuant to MCL 600.3278, the borrower will be held responsible to the person who buys the property at the mortgage foreclosure sale or to the mortgage holder for damage to the property during the redemption period.
Dated: February 13, 2025
File No. 25-001332
Firm Name: Orlans Law Group PLLC
Firm Address: 1650 West Big Beaver Road, Troy MI 48084
Firm Phone Number: (248) 502.1400
(02-13)(03-06)

COUNTY: VAN BUREN; MTGR: MATTHEW A MCKEAN; ATTY: QUINTAIROS PRIETO WOOD & BOYER - QUINTAIROS PRIETO WOOD & BOYER; 1ST PUB: 2/20/2025; ATTY FILE #: MI-003828; INSURER: (UNKNOWN)
NOTICE OF MORTGAGE FORECLOSURE SALE THIS FIRM IS A DEBT COLLECTOR ATTEMPTING TO COLLECT A DEBT. ANY INFORMATION WE OBTAIN WILL BE USED FOR THAT PURPOSE. PLEASE CONTACT OUR OFFICE AT THE NUMBER BELOW IF YOU ARE IN ACTIVE MILITARY DUTY. ATTN PURCHASERS: This sale may be rescinded by the foreclosing mortgagee. In that event, your damages, if any, shall be limited solely to return of the bid amount tendered at sale, plus interest. NOTICE OF FORECLOSURE BY ADVERTISEMENT: Notice is given under section 3212 of the revised judicature act of 1961, 1961 PA236, MCL 600.3212, that the following mortgage will be foreclosed by a sale of the mortgaged premises, or some part of them, at a public auction sale to the highest bidder for cash or cashier's check at the place of holding the circuit court in Van Buren County, starting promptly at 1:00 P.M., on April 10, 2025. The amount due on the mortgage may be greater on the day of the sale. Placing the highest bid at the sale does not automatically entitle the purchaser to free and clear ownership of the property. A potential purchaser is encouraged to contact the county register of deeds office or a title insurance company, either of which may charge a fee for this information. MORTGAGE SALE: Default has been made in the conditions of a mortgage made by Matthew A. McKean, the Mortgagor(s), and Mortgage Electronic Registration Systems, Inc., as nominee for First Federal Bank, the original Mortgagee, dated November 16, 2021, and recorded on December 2, 2021, in Liber 1729, at Page 902, in Van Buren County Records, Michigan, and last assigned to First Federal Bank, the Foreclosing Assignee, as documented by an Assignment of Mortgage dated October 17, 2023, and recorded on October 17, 2023, in Liber 1758, at Page 321, in Van Buren County Records, Michigan, on which mortgage there is claimed to be due and owing as of the date of this Notice, the sum of Four Hundred Fifty-Nine Thousand Seven Hundred Twenty-Six and 06/100 U.S. Dollars ($459,726.06). Said premise is situated at 61881 36th Ave., Bangor, Michigan 49013, in the Bangor Township, Van Buren County, Michigan, and is described as: THE NORTH 660 FEET OF THE WEST 660.66 FEET OF THE NORTHWEST 1/4 OF SECTION 23, TOWN 2 SOUTH, RANGE 16 WEST, BANGOR TOWNSHIP, VAN BUREN COUNTY, MICHIGAN. The redemption period shall be six (6) months from the date of such sale, unless determined abandoned in accordance with MCLA 600.3241a, in which case the redemption period shall be 30 days from the date of such sale. Pursuant to Chapter 32 of the Revised Judicature Act of 1961, if the property is sold at foreclosure sale the borrower will be held responsible to the person who buys the property at the mortgage foreclosure sale or to the mortgage holder under MCLA 600.3278 for damaging the property during the redemption period. ATTENTION HOMEOWNER: If you are a military service member on active duty, if your period of active duty has concluded less than 90 days ago, or if you have been ordered to active duty, please contact the attorney for the party foreclosing the mortgage at the telephone number stated in this notice. Dated: 02/10/2025 For More Information, please call: Quintairos, Prieto, Wood & Boyer, P.A. Attorneys for Servicer 255 South Orange Avenue, Suite 900 Orlando, Florida 32801 (855) 287-0240 Matter No. MI-003828-23-3
(02-20)(03-13)

VAN BUREN; MTGR: ERIKA HENKE; ATTY: TEAM J; 1ST PUB: 2/27/2025; ATTY FILE #: 508366F02; INSURER: (UNKNOWN)
NOTICE OF FORECLOSURE BY ADVERTISEMENT
Notice is given under section 3212 of the revised judicature act of 1961, 1961 PA 236, MCL 600.3212, that the following mortgage will be foreclosed by a sale of the mortgaged premises, or some part of them, at a public auction sale to the highest bidder for cash or cashier's check at the place of holding the circuit court in Van Buren County, starting promptly at 1:00 PM, on March 27, 2025. The amount due on the mortgage may be greater on the day of sale. Placing the highest bid at the sale does not automatically entitle the purchaser to free and clear ownership of the property. A potential purchaser is encouraged to contact the county register of deeds office or a title insurance company, either of which may charge a fee for this information:
Name(s) of the mortgagor(s): Erika Henke,a married woman, and Trent A Hunter, a single man, as joint tenants with rights of survivorship
Original Mortgagee: Mortgage Electronic Registration Systems, Inc., as mortgagee, as nominee for lender and lender's successors and/ or assigns
Foreclosing Assignee (if any): Citizens Bank, N.A.
Date of Mortgage: December 19, 2019
Date of Mortgage Recording: January 2, 2020
Amount claimed due on date of notice: $110,272.20
Description of the mortgaged premises: Situated in City of Gobles, Van Buren County, Michigan, and described as: COMMENCING AT A POINT 952.875 FEET (57 3/4 RODS) EAST OF THE NORTHWEST CORNER OF SECTION 30, TOWN 1 SOUTH, RANGE 13 WEST; THENCE SOUTH 214.5 FEET (13 RODS); THENCE EAST 49.50 FEET; THENCE NORTH 214.5 FEET (13 RODS); THENCE WEST 49.50 FEET TO THE POINT OF BEGINNING. EXCEPT THE WEST 4.36 FEET OF THE NORTH 124 FEET OF THE FOLLOWING: COMMENCING AT A POINT 952.875 (57 3/4 RODS) EAST OF THE NORTHWEST CORNER OF SECTION 30, TOWN 1 SOUTH, RANGE 13 WEST; THENCE SOUTH 214.5 FEET (13 RODS); THENCE EAST 49.50 FEET; THENCE NORTH 214.5 FEET (13 RODS); THENCE WEST 49.50 FEET TO THE POINT OF BEGINNING
Common street address (if any): 310 E Van Buren St, Gobles, MI 49055-9307
The redemption period shall be 6 months from the date of such sale, unless determined abandoned in accordance with MCL 600.3241a; or, if the subject real property is used for agricultural purposes as defined by MCL 600.3240(16).
If the property is sold at foreclosure sale under Chapter 32 of the Revised Judicature Act of 1961, pursuant to MCL 600.3278 the borrower will be held responsible to the person who buys the property at the mortgage foreclosure sale or to the mortgage holder for damaging the property during the redemption period.
Attention homeowner: If you are a military service member on active duty, if your period of active duty has concluded less than 90 days ago, or if you have been ordered to active duty, please contact the attorney for the party foreclosing the mortgage at the telephone number stated in this notice.
This notice is from a debt collector.
Date of notice: February 27, 2025
Trott Law, P.C.
31440 Northwestern Hwy, Suite 145
Farmington Hills, MI 48334
(248) 642-2515
1553698
(02-27)(03-20)

COUNTY: VAN BUREN; MTGR: VINLAND SUSTAINABLE FARM LLC; ATTY: ANDREW BARNES - ANDREW BARNES; 1ST PUB: 2/27/2025; ATTY FILE #: (N/A); INSURER: (UNKNOWN)
NOTICE OF FORECLOSURE BY ADVERTISEMENT Notice is given under section 3212 of the revised judicature act of 1961, 1961 PA 236, MCL 600.3212, that the following Mortgage will be foreclosed by a sale of the mortgaged premises, or some part of them, at a public auction sale to the highest bidder for cash or cashier's check at the place of holding the circuit court in Van Buren County, starting promptly at 1:00 p.m., on March 27, 2025. The amount due on the mortgage may be greater on the day of the sale. Placing the highest bid at the sale does not automatically entitle the purchaser to free and clear ownership of the property. A potential purchaser is encouraged to contact the county register of deeds office or a title insurance company, either of which may charge a fee for this information. THIS FIRM IS A DEBT COLLECTOR ATTEMPTING TO COLLECT A DEBT, ANY INFORMATION WILL BE USED FOR THAT PURPOSE. PLEASE CONTACT OUR OFFICE AT THE NUMBER BELOW IF YOU ARE IN ACTIVE MILITARY DUTY. Default has occurred in the conditions of a Mortgage (the "Mortgage") made by VINLAND SUSTAINABLE FARM, LLC, a Michigan limited liability company, as Mortgagor(s), to Margaret Asrani, as Mortgagee. The Mortgage is dated April 28, 2020 and was recorded April 30, 2020 at Liber 1699 Page 558 of Van Buren County Records. The amount claimed to be due on said Mortgage and unpaid at the date of this Notice is TWO HUNDRED FIFTY-EIGHT THOUSAND TWO HUNDRED FORTY AND 58/100 ($258,240.58) DOLLARS, including interest on the applicable indebtedness at a default rate of 6.00% per annum. This sum will increase as additional interest, costs, expenses, and attorney fees accrue under the Mortgage and its related note and which are permitted under Michigan law after the date of this Notice. No legal or equitable proceedings have been instituted to recover the debt secured by the Mortgage, and the power of sale in the Mortgage has become operative by reason of the default. At the date and time as referenced previously in this Notice, the Mortgage will be foreclosed by a sale of the property herein described, or some part of them, at public auction, to the highest bidder, for the purpose of satisfying the amount due and unpaid on the Mortgage, along with interest due, the legal costs and charges of sale as allowed by statute and/or the Mortgage, and any taxes and insurance that the Mortgagee pays on or prior to the date of said sale. The property mentioned and described in the Mortgage, as located in the Township of Covert, County of Van Buren, and State of Michigan, are more particularly described as follows: The North Half of the South Half of the Northwest Quarter of Section 28, Town 2 South, Range 17 West; Address: 41337 78th St., Covert, MI 49043; Tax Parcel No.: 80-07-028-028-00. together with all existing or subsequently erected or affixed buildings, improvements, and fixtures; all easements, rights of way, streets, roads, alleys, and public places, privileges, and appurtenances, public or private, now or later used in connection with the premises; and all rights to make divisions of the land that are exempt from the platting requirements of all applicable land division or platting acts, as amended from time to time. Attention Purchasers: the foreclosing Mortgagee reserves the right to cancel the sale prior to sale or to rescind this sale at any time. In that event, your damages, if any, will be limited solely to the return of the bid amount tendered at the sale, plus interest. If the mortgaged property is sold at foreclosure sale under Chapter 32 of the Revised Judicature Act of 1961, pursuant to MCL 600.3278 the borrower will be held responsible to the person who buys the property at the mortgage foreclosure sale or to the mortgage holder for damaging the property during the redemption period. Attention Homeowner: If you are a military service member on active duty, if your period of active duty has concluded less than 90 days ago, or if you have been ordered to active duty, please contact the attorney for the party foreclosing the mortgage at the telephone number stated in this notice. The length of the redemption period will be six (6) months from date of sale, unless the redemption period is shortened pursuant to MCL 600.3241a or MCL 600.3238, in which case the redemption period shall be 30 days from the date of sale or as otherwise provided by statute. DATED: February 27, 2025 ANDREW W. BARNES (P70571) BUTZEL LONG P.C. ATTORNEYS FOR MORTGAGEE 317 Center Street South Haven, MI 49090 269-287-2010
(02-27)(03-20)

COUNTY: VAN BUREN; MTGR: MARK A REDFERN; ATTY: SCHNEIDERMAN & SHERMAN, P.C. - SCHNEIDERMAN & SHERMAN, PC; 1ST PUB: 2/27/2025; ATTY FILE #: 25-000322-1; INSURER: (UNKNOWN)
SHORT FORECLOSURE NOTICE - VAN BUREN COUNTY
Notice of Foreclosure by Advertisement. Notice is given under section 3212 of the revised judicature act of 1961, 1961 PA 236, MCL 600.3212, that the following mortgage will be foreclosed by a sale of the mortgaged premises, or some part of them, at a public auction sale to the highest bidder for cash or cashier's check at the place of holding the circuit court in Van Buren County, starting promptly at 1:00 PM, on March 27, 2025. The amount due on the mortgage may be greater on the day of the sale. Placing the highest bid at the sale does not automatically entitle the purchaser to free and clear ownership of the property. A potential purchaser is encouraged to contact the county register of deeds office or a title insurance company, either of which may charge a fee for this information. MORTGAGE: Mortgagor(s): Mark A. Redfern and Lori Redfern, husband and wife Original Mortgagee: Mortgage Electronic Registration Systems, Inc. ("MERS"), solely as nominee for lender and lender`s successors and assigns Date of mortgage: July 6, 2018 Recorded on July 10, 2018, Liber 1670, on Page 995, Foreclosing Assignee (if any): NewRez LLC d/b/a Shellpoint Mortgage Servicing Amount claimed to be due at the date hereof: One Hundred Seventy-One Thousand Six Hundred Twenty-Eight and 09/100 Dollars ($171,628.09) Mortgaged premises: Situated in Van Buren County, and described as: Part of the Northeast fractional quarter of fractional Section 4, Town 3 South, Range 15 West, Lawrence Township, Van Buren County, Michigan, described as commencing at the North quarter post of said Section 4; thence East along the North line of said Section 716.50 feet to the West line of a parcel of land described in a Quit Claim Deed recorded in Liber 1133 on page 991 and the point of beginning of the land herein described; thence continuing East along said North line 15.00 feet; thence South 00° 40` 29" East, parallel with the North and South quarter line of said Section 393.42 feet; thence West parallel with the North line of said Section 25.40 feet; thence South 00° 40` 29" East, parallel with the North and South quarter line of said Section 390.00 feet; thence East parallel with the North line of said Section 458.00 feet to a line which is 1164.10 feet East of and parallel with the North and South quarter line of said Section; thence South 00° 40` 29" East, along the last described line 676.565 feet to the South line of the North fractional half of said Northeast fractional quarter, also being the South line of a parcel of land described in a Memorandum of Land Contract recorded in Liber 1046 on page 21; thence North 89° 26` 32" West, along said South line 488.08 feet to a line which is 676.10 feet East of and parallel with the North and South quarter line of said Section, also being the West line of a parcel of land described in a Warranty Deed recorded in Liber 0878 on page 038 of Van Buren County records; thence North 00° 40` 29" West, along the last described line, 1237.233 feet to a line which Is 218 feet Southerly of and parallel with the North line of said Section; thence East along the last described line 40.40 feet to a line which is 716.50 feet East of and parallel with the North and South quarter line of said Section, also being the West line of a parcel of land described In a Quit Claim Deed recorded In Liber 1133 on page 991 of Van Buren County records; thence North 00° 40` 29" West, along the fast described line 218.00 feet to the place of beginning. Commonly known as 52757 48th Ave, Lawrence, MI 49064 The redemption period will be 6 month from the date of such sale, unless abandoned under MCL 600.3241a, in which case the redemption period will be 30 days from the date of such sale, or 15 days from the MCL 600.3241a(b) notice, whichever is later; or unless extinguished pursuant to MCL 600.3238. If the above referenced property is sold at a foreclosure sale under Chapter 32 of Act 236 of 1961, under MCL 600.3278, the borrower will be held responsible to the person who buys the property at the mortgage foreclosure sale or to the mortgage holder for damaging the property during the redemption period. Attention homeowner: If you are a military service member on active duty, if your period of active duty has concluded less than 90 days ago, or if you have been ordered to active duty, please contact the attorney for the party foreclosing the mortgage at the telephone number stated in this notice. NewRez LLC d/b/a Shellpoint Mortgage Servicing Mortgagee/Assignee Schneiderman & Sherman P.C. 23938 Research Dr, Suite 300 Farmington Hills, MI 48335 248.539.7400 1554292
(02-27)(03-20)

ALMENA TOWNSHIP
VAN BUREN COUNTY, MICHIGAN
NOTICE OF ADOPTION OF THE INOPERABLE VEHICLES, VEHICLE REPAIR AND STORAGE ORDINANCE

ORDINANCE NO. 2025-01

Please take notice that on February 19, 2025, the Township Board of Almena Township adopted Ordinance No. 2025-01, an Ordinance to secure the public peace, health, safety and welfare of the residents and property owners of Almena Township, Van Buren County, Michigan, by regulating the outdoor parking, storage and repair of vehicles, including any conveyance, trailer, boat, aircraft, cargo container, railcars, railroad cars, semi-truck tractors and trailers, box cars, truck boxes and new or used parts or junk therefrom; to define common types of conveyances and to prohibit the utilization of the various types of conveyances for storage or as storage structures on real property premises within the Township; to provide civil sanctions and remedies for any violation of this Ordinance; and to repeal any ordinance or parts of ordinances in conflict herewith. Copies of the complete text of the Ordinance may be obtained from Sandi Rickli at the Clerk's office at 27625 County Road 375, Paw Paw, MI 49079, or by emailing almenaclerk@comcast.net.

The Ordinance has the following sections: Section 1: Title; Section 2: Purpose; Section 3: Definitions; Section 4: Prohibited Storage and Parking; Exceptions; Section 5: Nuisance; Section 6: Sanctions; Section 7: Severability; Section 8: Savings Clause; Section 9: Repeal; and Section 10: Effective Date, which is thirty (30) days after this publication.

Published by Order of the Township Board
Almena Township, Van Buren County

Sandi Rickli, Clerk
27625 County Road 375, Paw Paw, MI 49079
(269) 668-6910

Publication Date: February 27, 2025

The Van Buren Intermediate School District is now accepting bids for the completion of the Construction Trades program's pre-manufactured home at 465 Memory Ln., Decatur, MI 49045 as outlined in the bid packet. Bid packets are available for download at **www.vbisd.org** under District Services – Business Office. Bids are due **March 10, 2025, at 2:00 PM** at the Van Buren Intermediate School District Business Office, 490 S. Paw Paw Street, Lawrence, MI 49064, at which time bids will be publicly opened and read aloud. Bids received after that time will not be accepted and returned unopened. The Board of Education shall not accept a bid unless it includes both sworn and notarized familial affidavit and Iran linked business affidavit. The Van Buren Intermediate School District reserves the right to accept or reject any or all bids, to waive any irregularities which it deems to be in the best interest of Van Buren Intermediate School District, and the right to award the contract to other than lowest bidder.

PORTER TOWNSHIP, VBCO, MARCH BOARD OF REVIEW

March 12th, 2025 – Organizational Meeting will be held at the Township Hall, located at 88040 M-40, Lawton at 9:00am. No appeals will be heard at this meeting.

March 12th – Official MBOR, held at the Township Hall from 10:00am – 4:00pm. Petitions will be heard by appointment and these can be scheduled by calling Krys at (269) 228-3331 or email **assessor@portertwpvbco.gov** Walk-ins will be seen as permits.

March 13th – MBOR, held at the Township Hall from 3:00pm – 9:00pm, located at 88040 M-40, Lawton. Appeals will be heard by appointment, which can be scheduled by calling Krys at (269) 228-3331 or emailing **assessor@portertwpvbco.gov**

Walk-ins will be seen as permits.

NOTICE OF PUBLIC HEARING PAW PAW TOWNSHIP PLANNING COMMISSION

The Paw Paw Township Planning Commission will hold a public hearing regarding the following request. Public comments on the matter are welcomed.

Application:
- Request: Special land use and site plan for a pavilion proposed to be placed 40 feet from the high-water mark instead of a minimum required distance of 50 feet.
- Zoning District: WF Waterfront Area
- Project Address: 44430 60th Avenue
- Project Parcel Number: 80-14-018-066-60
- Applicant: Brian Cady

Meeting Information:
- Location: Paw Paw Township Hall, 114 N. Gremps St., Paw Paw, MI, 49079
- Date: Tuesday, March 18, 2025
- Time: 6:00 PM
- Hearing and project information: call 269-657-4340 or email clerk@pawpawtownship.org

Those unable to attend the public hearing are invited to submit written comments to the attention of the Planning Commission Chair at the Township Hall address listed above by 4:00 PM on the meeting date.

If any individual has a physical disability that may limit their participation in the hearing, please notify the Township at least five (5) days prior to the hearing so that reasonable accommodations may be made.

Advertisement for Request for Proposal Mattawan Consolidated School

Mattawan Consolidated School is soliciting bids from qualified companies who describe their capabilities & provide a proposal to replace carpet & wall base in specified areas at the High School & Middle School at Mattawan Consolidated School (MCS).

Mandatory Pre-Bid Walk-Through is Friday, March 7, 2025 at 1pm at Mattawan

High School – 56487 Western St - Mattawan MI, 49071.

Only SEALED bids will be accepted and are due by 11am on Tuesday, March 18,2025 at the MCS Central Administration Building. Please find detailed specifications for this project & bid requirements on the District website at mattawanschools.org.

CLASSIFIEDS

• HELP WANTER •

PART-TIME HELP WANTED
MILLER THERMOMETER CO.
14 S. Center Street, Hartford, MI 49057
269-621-3124

• WANTED •

CLARK'S AUTO PARTS, INC. is buying cars, trucks & all metals for recycling. Lawrence, 674-4905 or 1-800-707-8650.

STANDING TIMBER.
Top Michigan lumber manufacturer seeking landowners with 25 or more mature hardwood trees to sell. Qualityhardwoodsinc.com • 517-566-8061.

• SERVICES •

GRANT DALY PAINTING:
Interior/exterior residential, commercial, industrial. Great references & free estimates. Call 657-7893.

HAULING, CLEANING RECYCLING.
Moving service. Right Quick Hauling. Dan Wydick, Dustin Wydick, Daniel Wydick, 423-8545. Serving since 1994.

FIELD PLUMBING & HEATING, INC.
Services all brands of heating & cooling equipment in your home or business. 24/7 service for over 50 years, 269-674-3839.

NOW HIRING
Full & part time positions available for direct care staff. No experience necessary. All training provided.
Please call **269-628-9099**
to schedule an interview or apply online
cornerstoneafc.com

BUYING JUNK CARS, trucks, scrap metal and farm machinery. Kalamazoo Metal Recyclers, 1525 King Highway, Kalamazoo. 269-381-1315.

BUDGET APPLIANCE SERVICE, 269-685-8902. Call us today for your appliance repair or service needs! Quality service at affordable prices.

HANDYMAN SERVICE
Frame thru finish, high quality, highly qualified carpenters. Call 269-903-6397.

MEDICARE GURU
Call
Janet Bontrager
Insurance Advisor
(269) 998-6977

FOR MORE INFO OR TO PLACE AN AD

Call (269) 657-3072 or 657-5080 BEFORE MONDAY AT 5PM

Visit our website @ epaper.wilcoxnewspapers.com

FIND US ON SOCIAL MEDIA

NOTICE OF SHERIDAN ROAD MAINTENANCE SPECIAL ASSESSMENT PUBLIC HEARING
Township of Paw Paw, Van Buren County, Michigan

PLEASE TAKE NOTICE that the township supervisor has prepared and filed in the office of the township clerk for public examination a special assessment roll covering all properties within the Sheridan Road Special Assessment District No. 857 benefited by the proposed maintenance project to include resurfacing of the road. The roll has been prepared for the purpose of assessing the costs as shown on the estimate of costs on file with the township clerk. The roll is in the amount of $70,000. with a proposed special assessment of $278.47 per parcel per year for seven years. For further information you are invited to examine the roll.

The township board will meet at the Paw Paw Township Hall at 114 North Gremps Street Paw Paw, Michigan on March 10th , 2025, at 6 o'clock p.m. to review the special assessment roll, to consider objections thereto, and to confirm the roll as submitted or revised or amended. The roll may be examined at the office of the township clerk at the township hall during regular business hours of regular business days until the time of the hearing and may be examined at the hearing.

An owner or party of interest, or his or her agent, may appear in person at the hearing to protest the special assessment in writing, or may file his or her appearance and protest by letter before the hearing, and in the event, personal appearance shall not be required. The owner or any person having an interest in the real property who protests in writing at or before the hearing may file a written appeal of the special assessment with the State Tax Tribunal within 30 days after the special assessment roll is confirmed.

After the public hearing, the township board may confirm the roll as submitted or as revised or amended; may provide for payment of special assessment with interest; and may provide by resolution for such other matters as are permitted by law with regard to special assessments for Sheridan Road Special Assessment District No. 857.

All interested persons are invited to be present at the hearing to submit comments. American With Disabilities (ADA) Notice THE PAW PAW TOWNSHIP HALL IS BARRIER FREE. The Township will provide necessary reasonable services to individuals with disabilities at the Public Hearing upon 2 business days' notice. Contact: Rebecca Payne, PAW PAW TOWNSHIP CLERK, 269-657- 4340 ext. 125.

Rebecca F. Payne, Paw Paw Township Clerk
114 North Gremps Street, Paw Paw, Michigan 49079 • (269)657-4340 ext. 125

BLOOMINGDALE TOWNSHIP
2025 NOTICE BOARD OF REVIEW

THE BLOOMINGDALE TOWNSHIP BOARD OF REVIEW FOR 2025 WILL BE HELD AT THE BLOOMINGDALE TOWNSHIP HALL, 109 E. KALAMAZOO ST., BLOOMINGDALE, MI 49026 ON THE FOLLOWING DATES:

MARCH, 4 2025 (3:30 pm) ORGANIZATION MEETING
NO APPEALS NO APPEALS
MARCH 12, 2025 (9 am to 3 pm) APPEAL HEARING **

MARCH 14, 2025 (3pm to 9 pm) APPEAL HEARING **

****ALL APPEALS WILL BE HEARD BY APPOINTMENT ONLY. PLEASE CALL 269-521-3800 EXT 4 TO SCHEDULE AN Appointment. BY BOARD RESOLUTION, RESIDENTS ARE ABLE TO PROTEST BY LETTER, PROVIDED PROTEST LETTER IS RECEIVED PRIOR TO MARCH 13th 2025 BY 5:00 PM.**

TENTATIVE RATIOS AND ESTIMATED MULTIPLIERS FOR 2025 ARE AS FOLLOWS:

CLASS	RATIO	FACTOR	CLASS	RATIO	FACTOR
*Agricultural	45.15%	1.1074	*Commercial	47.61%	1.0502
*Residential	46.51%	1.0750	*Industrial	47.42%	1.0544
*Personal Property	50.00%	1.0000			

AMERICANS WITH DISABILITIES (ADA) NOTICE:

The township will provide necessary reasonable services to individuals with disabilities at the Board of Review meetings upon (5) days' notice.
Contact: Michael Richmond at 269-521-3800 ext. 4.

MICHAEL RICHMOND – ASSESSOR

TOWNSHIP OF PAW PAW
2025 NOTICE OF BOARD OF REVIEW

PLEASE TAKE NOTICE that the Board of Review will meet at the Township Hall, 114 N. Gremps St. Paw Paw, MI 49079, to examine and review the 2025 Assessment Roll. The board will convene on the following dates for the hearing of appeals of assessments or taxable values, poverty exemptions, parcel classification appeals and/or current year qualified agricultural denials:

Tuesday, March 4, 2025, 10:00 am Organizational Meeting
Wednesday, March 12, 2025, 9:00 am to Noon and 4:30 pm to 7:30 pm Monday, March 17, 2025, Noon to 3:00 pm and 4:30 pm to 7:30 pm

and on such additional days as required to hear all persons who have given notice of the desire to be heard until assessment rolls have been revised, corrected, and approved. **APPOINTMENTS ARE REQUIRED.** Contact the Assessor at 269-655-1144 or by email at BEN.APGLLC@GMAIL.COM for further information. Letter appeals will be accepted and must be received no later than 5:00 pm March 14, 2025. Address listed below.

Tentative ratios and estimated multipliers for 2025 are as follows:

Agricultural	46.51%	1.0750
Commercial	45.38%	1.1018
Industrial	43.60%	1.1468
Residential	45.43%	1.1006
Personal Property	50.00%	1.0000

Tentative equalization factor of 1.0000 for all classes is expected after completion of Board of Review.
Tom Palenick, Supervisor Paw Paw Township
Ben Brousseau, Assessor Paw Paw Township

Paw Paw Township Board Meetings are open to all without regard to race, national origin, sex, or disability.

American with Disabilities (ADA) Notice

The township will provide necessary reasonable auxiliary aids and services, to individuals with disabilities at the meeting/hearing upon seven (7) days' notice to Paw Paw Township. Individuals with disabilities requiring auxiliary aids or services should contact Paw Paw Township by writing or calling.

Paw Paw Township Clerk • 114 N. Gremps St., Paw Paw, MI 49079 • (269) 657-4340

Local meat processor is recognized for excellence

Scott Filbrandt with Bob & Judy Filbrandt 2024

By James Windell

Jason Kinder says he wouldn't buy his bacon anywhere else.

"We are getting our bacon for chocolate bacon from them," says Kinder, owner of Sweet Haven Candy in South Haven. "They have the best selection of nearly everything you'd want and everything they have is unmatched in quality."

It's not just Kinder who thinks that's Bob's Processing has some of the finest meat and fish products around. That's why Bob's, as it is known to locals, has been in business in South Haven Township for the last 45 years.

There's a reason that people swear by the meat they buy at Bob's. Recently, as they have been doing for the past 35 years, Bob's won four gold medals and a silver medal at a national meat competition held in Iowa. In past competitions they have accumulated over 100 Blue Ribbons and four Best in Show awards.

"We just won gold medals at the German Butchers Association for bacon, Braunsweiger, smoked fish and Mettwurst and a silver medal for our smoked fish," says Scott Filbrandt. Scott and his brother Brad now run the business.

Despite their medals and ribbons, winning never gets old, according to Filbrandt.

"It's always exciting to take that top spot," he says. "First, it helps our marketing, it shows the quality of our products, and it shows your identity." He points out that at the IFFA Show, which is the largest of the international meat trade shows, you are judged on the standard of identity.

"I'm able to make a product that meets the standard of identity for us," Filbrandt says.

Because of the awards, Filbrandt explains that their customers can expect quality meat. "Judges also judge you on the flavor profile," he says. "You have to make sure your meat has good flavor. I've done the work to make sure we have the good flavors. Palatable is what the judges call it."

The business was started by his father, Bob Filbrandt, but in recent years Scott and his brother Brad have taken over the business from their father. Bob was inducted into the cured meat hall of fame, and both Bob and his wife Judy received the lifetime achievement award from the American Association of Meat Processors (AAMP) for their service in the meat industry. Judy served many years as the secretary for the Michigan Meat Association. Bob has judged in cured meat shows at the state and national levels and made many great contacts over the years that has helped him make some great products.

Scott is now the President of AAMP and he will be attending the IFFA show in Germany in May to hand out medals to other winning processors while also receiving Bob's medals.

You could say that Scott learned the business early in his life. "I was eight years old when dad started the business," Scott says. "I was in the way to start, but then he started letting me do actual work and it's progressed over the years and now my brother and I have taken over the business."

He says that he has changed some recipes over the years, and he has "Tweaked some things to make a better product." Also, four years ago they went USDA (United States Department of Agriculture). That means that a meat inspector comes into their business every day to check on their products. "They check our records to make sure we took temperatures of different products to make sure they meet time and temperature rules so that you have a safe product," Filbrandt says. But he says that being USDA approved allows them to sell their products anywhere and others can resell their meats and fishes.

In addition to selling from their shop at 70705 16th Avenue, South Haven, they also do private labeling. "I can make hotdogs, snack sticks and jerky from your beef and I put your label on it," Filbrandt says. "That allows you to take your product to, say, a farmer's market, and sell it. We have about 30 private label companies that we're making product for now."

Although they work out of a small facility, their staff processes a great deal of meat and fish. Besides Scott and Brad Filbrandt, Scott's daughter Lisa Cowles is the manager of Bob's and they have seven other full and part-time employees.

Scott says that Lisa has been learning the business since "She was in a car seat." With a growing family – Scott has one grandchild already and another one on the way – it looks like Bob's will be in good hands for many decades in the future.

YOUR LOCAL
Real Estate
EXPERTS

Tricia Brucks
708-705-8424
triciabrucksrealtor@gmail.com

Jamie Emery
269-271-1601
emeryj.realtor@gmail.com

Nic Rand
269-823-8613
nrand.properties@gmail.com

Blaine Allen
269-903-6276
blaine.rallen@gmail.com

"Community is our number one priority. We like to make you feel at home."

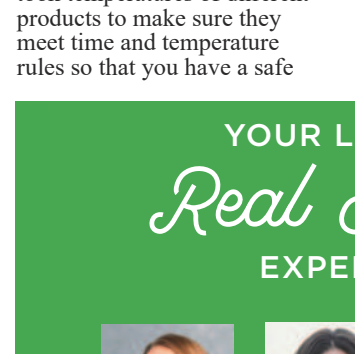
The Allen Group
allengrouprealtors.com

THE ALLEN GROUP
239 N Main St, Ste A
Lawton, MI 49065
five star* REAL ESTATE LEADERS

SERVICE DIRECTORY

Double M Construction
Serving Southwest Michigan and surrounding areas
Metal Roofing
Complete Pole Barn Packages
Free Estimates
BBB ACCREDITED BUSINESS
(269) 762-9920
56504 Butcher Road, Lawrence, MI 49064

HOME SERVICES INSTALL & REPAIR
JESI WALLACE
(269) 716-6131
Call for your free estimate today!
Paw Paw, Michigan, & Surrounding Areas
homeservicesinstall.com
- Home Maintenance
- Interior & Exterior Repairs
- Tile & Flooring
- Painting
- Lighting


Jim's Small Engine
43356 CR 653 Paw Paw MI 49079
Credit Cards Accepted
Chinsaws, mowers, snowblowers pressure washers, generators, etc.
269-674-9403
Larz Boley
Owner
LLC

OFFICE: 269-375-1425
WESTON SEPTIC, LLC
RESIDENTIAL COMMERCIAL
BBB ACCREDITED BUSINESS
• Septic Tank Pumping • Install Risers
NOW HIRING!
Linda & Russ Weston, Owners

mckenziemi.com 269-657-2548
MCKENZIE INSURANCE
Auto-Owners INSURANCE
LIFE • HOME • CAR • BUSINESS
Insurance for what matters most to you, since 1945.

WE CAN DO IT ALL!!
NO JOB TOO BIG • NO JOB TOO SMALL
Interior/ Exterior Remodels Kitchens Framing Drywall Flooring Baths
HB HANDYMAN SERVICES
269-599-8532
Soffit/ Facia Pressure Washing Roofing Siding Decks etc.
Owner *Chris Hardenbrook*
Chardenbrook82@gmail.com
Residential/Commercial
Free Estimates!!

EARL SANDERS & SON WELL DRILLING INC.
Since 1943
Trouble with your water well?
Low Pressure?
Smelly Water?
No Water?
269-806-6730
Email: earlsandersinc@hotmail.com

When protecting your Auto, Home and Life, the
EXPERIENCE MATTERS.
Call Derek Lietzau today!
(269) 655-1814
408 W. Michigan Ave. Paw Paw
DerekInsGroup.com
FARM BUREAU INSURANCE A Michigan Company

WATERPROOFING & CONTRACTORS RJ
Wet Basement?
• Internal/External Drain Tile Systems
• Water Seepage - Structural Wall & Floor Cracks
• Damp Wet Crawl Spaces
• Bowed & Cracked Walls
• Sump Pump/Emergency Backup System
• Mold Removal & Drywall Repair
24 Hour Emergency Service
Senior Discounts
269-337-7660
EXPERIENCED IN ALL METHODS OF BASEMENT WATERPROOFING

SOUTHWEST MICHIGAN CONSTRUCTION
SPECIALIZING IN METAL ROOFS, BATHROOMS, INTERIOR/EXTERIOR REMODELING.
HANDYMAN SERVICE
269-506-3942

Specialize in:
Driveways • Garage Floors
Sidewalks • Curbs and Gutters
Patios
Baldo's Concrete
Oswaldo Alvarez
Contractor
(269) 598-3905
disago1974@gmail.com
instagram: @baldos_concrete
25+ Years of Experiance

WALT & MARIE'S COUNTRY MARKET
CATERING & MORE!
• DINE IN • TAKE OUT • PARTY PLATTERS •
• BUFFET STYLE CATERING •
RENT OUR CAFE FOR YOUR PRIVATE EVENT FOR ONLY $50/HR
• BUSINESS MEETINGS • BIRTHDAY PARTIES • BABY SHOWERS • WEDDINGS • & MORE!
WALT & MARIE'S COUNTRY MARKET
44947 W RED ARROW HWY
PAW PAW, MI
269-657-7570

Plain Jane's ANTIQUES
JANE KESTELOOT
SEEJANESHOP@YAHOO.COM
269•929•6162
• Vintage • Rustic Decor • Garden • Jewelry • Furniture
• Gift & Trinkets • Primitives • Antiquities • Books • Signs & Advertising
DOWNTOWN PAW PAW
229 E. Michigan Ave • Paw Paw, MI 49079

Jaqua Realtors
SOUTH HAVEN'S TOP REAL ESTATE BROKER, 12 YEARS IN A ROW!
YOUR LAKESHORE REAL ESTATE EXPERT
Amy O'Sullivan
Associate Broker
AS SEEN ON HGTV
www.SoldByAmyO.com
513 Broadway St
South Haven, MI 49090
C.269.214.1257 | aosullivan@jaquarealtors.com

BATES
HOME REMODELING
Brent Bates
Bates5601@gmail.com
269-350-3350
Interior Trim
Tuck Pointing
Aluminum Trim
Pre-Hung Doors
Bee Removal
Carpentry
Tile Installed
Concrete Work
Deck Specialist